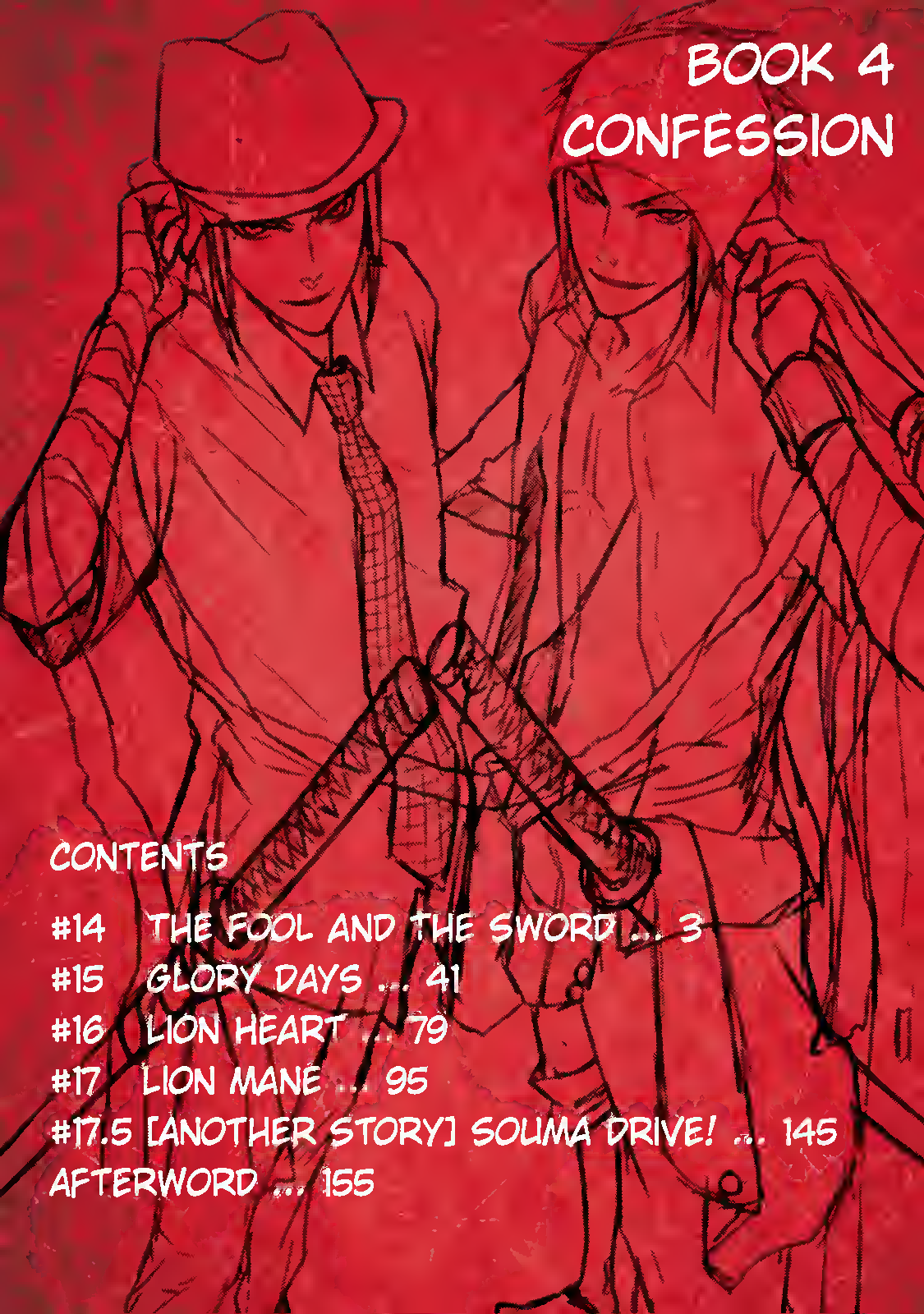
4
SAMURAI DRIVE
Fujiko Kosumi

SAMURAI DRIVE 4
FUJIKO KOSUMI



BOOK 4
CONFESSION

CONTENTS

#14 THE FOOL AND THE SWORD ... 3
#15 GLORY DAYS ... 41
#16 LION HEART ... 79
#17 LION MANE ... 95
#17.5 [ANOTHER STORY] SOUMA DRIVE! ... 145
AFTERWORD ... 155

#14: THE FOOL AND THE SWORD

Samurai Drive

CHARACTER PROFILES

A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT WHO TRANSFERRED TO SHISEIKAN HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS 1-1, HE CALLS HIMSELF "HARUMA'S COMRADE." HE IS ORIGINALLY FROM SHIGA PREFECTURE, AND HIS RESPECT FOR SEISHIRO DREW HIM TO TOKYO. HE LIVES IN THE SCHOOL DORMS AND WORKS PART-TIME TO PAY FOR HIS TUITION.

SHE'S A WEASEL THAT HAS TAKEN UP RESIDENCE AT SHISEIKAN. HARUMA TENDED TO HER WOUNDS AND NOW SHE'S IN LOVE WITH HIM.

THIS CLASSMATE OF HARUMA IS GENTLE AND COOL-HEADED. BUT DEEP DOWN HE'S A PASSIONATE YOUNG MAN AND A HUGE JIN FAN. REN'S THE FRIEND HE JUST CAN'T SEEM TO GET RID OF.

THIS CLASSMATE OF HARUMA IS VERY IMPULSIVE, PASSIONATE, AND EASILY MOVED TO TEARS. HE'S ALSO NOT VERY TOUGH. IN THE PAST, HARUMA HAS WIPED THE FLOOR WITH HIM.

THE PROTAGONIST OF THE STORY. HARUMA IS A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT AT SHISEIKAN HIGH SCHOOL, AND HE IS IN CLASS 1-1. HE IS RUMORED TO BE THE MOST SKILLED SWORDSMAN IN HIS YEAR. THE MONSTROUS STRENGTH HE DISPLAYED DURING HIS SEARCH FOR HIS TEACHER'S KILLER SOON WON HIM THE NICKNAME "WHITE DAEMON." THAT SAID, HE'S CHRONICALLY SLEEPY AND IS A GUY OF FEW (ALMOST NO) WORDS. SO IT'S GENERALLY HARD TO TELL HE'S EVEN THERE AT ALL. THANKS TO IBUKI, HE'S STARTING TO SEEM A BIT MORE NORMAL.

HE IS HARUMA'S OLDER BROTHER. HIS FATHER IS A FERVENT OPPONENT OF WEARING SWORDS, AND YUKINARI ACTS AS HIS RIGHT-HAND MAN, PROVIDING SUPPORT BEHIND THE SCENES. SINCE HIS BROTHER HARUMA IS STILL DEVOTED TO SEISHIRO, HE'S ON BAD TERMS WITH HIM.

A MYSTERIOUS SWORDSMAN THAT HARASSED HARUMA. NOT MUCH IS KNOWN ABOUT HIM AT THIS POINT, BUT FROM THE WAY HE TALKS, IT'S QUITE OBVIOUS HE'S A WEIRDO.

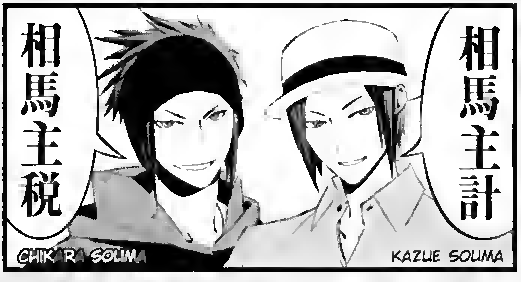
A GIFTED SWORDSMAN WHO WAS MURDERED TWO YEARS AGO AT THE AGE OF 23. HE WAS HARUMA'S MENTOR. JUST BEFORE HE DIED, HE KILLED INNOCENT CIVILIANS, AN ACT WHICH DESTROYED HIS REPUTATION AFTER HIS DEATH.

HE IS A SECOND-YEAR STUDENT AT SHISEIKAN AND THE SCHOOL'S STRONGEST SWORDSMAN. HE AND HARUMA WERE BOTH SEISHIRO'S DISCIPLES. HE DOTES ON HARUMA AND LOOKS OUT FOR HIM, BUT IT ANNOYS HARUMA.

THIS SWORDSMAN ATTENDS A REGULAR HIGH SCHOOL IN THE NORTHERN KANTO REGION. HE IS FIGHTING TO PROVE THE INNOCENCE OF HIS BROTHER NOBUCHIKA. HE COMPLETELY SPOILS HIS YOUNGER SISTER, ITSUKI.

HE WAS SEISHIRO'S CLOSE FRIEND AND ALLY. HE IS ON DEATH ROW FOR MURDER.

HE IS JIN'S QUIET, COURTEOUS PARTNER. AMONG THE SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS, ONLY JIN IS MORE SKILLED WITH A SWORD. HE'S RESOLVED TO DEVOTE HIS LIFE TO JIN.



THESE BROTHERS ARE SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS WHO ARE CALLED THE "TWIN DEVILS." THE ONE ON THE LEFT IS THE OLDER BROTHER CHIKARA, AND ONE ON THE RIGHT IS THE YOUNGER BROTHER, KAZUE.

STORY OUTLINE

AFTER THE MEIJI RESTORATION, THE MEIJI GOVERNMENT ALLOWED THE SAMURAI TO CONTINUE TO BEAR SWORDS. THIS PRACTICE HAS CONTINUED TO THE PRESENT, BUT THE SAMURAI ARE CONSIDERED TO BE AN ANACHRONISM. THE POLITICAL CLIMATE NOW FAVORS FACTIONS AND MOVEMENTS THAT AIM TO BAN THE CARRYING OF SWORDS.

THE FAMOUS ALL-BOYS SCHOOL "SHISEIKAN" STANDS QUIETLY IN THE SHIBUYA WARD OF TOKYO. A PLACE WHERE THE CHILDREN OF SWORD-BEARING CLASS GATHER, THIS IS ONE OF THE LAST REMAINING SCHOOLS FOR SWORDSMEN.

HARUMA KOKONOE, A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT AT THIS SCHOOL, IS SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH BEHIND AN INCIDENT TWO YEARS AGO THAT SULLIED THE NAME AND LEAD TO THE MURDER OF HIS MENTOR, SEISHIRO SHINDO. TOGETHER WITH HIS CLASSMATE, IBUKI TAKAHARA, WHO ALSO BELIEVES IN THE INNOCENCE OF SEISHIRO SHINDO, HARUMA HAS BEEN LOOKING FOR CLUES TO CLEAR HIS MENTOR'S NAME.

FALL HAS COME, AND THE STUDENTS OF SHISEIKAN ARE PREPARING FOR A TRADITIONAL, ANNUAL EVENT CALLED THE "SHISEI FESTIVAL." UNFORTUNATELY, PRESSURE FROM THE POLITICAL MOVEMENT TO BAN SWORDS CAUSED THE EVENT TO BE CANCELED. IN RESPONSE TO THIS, THE STUDENTS CAME TOGETHER AND DECIDED TO HOLD THE EVENT ANYWAY.

MEANWHILE, HARUMA WENT TO A JAIL TO VISIT NOBUCHIKA ODANI, THE MAN WHO HOLDS THE KEY TO EXPOSING THE MYSTERY OF SEISHIRO. THERE, HARUMA ENCOUNTERED YOSHICHIKA ODANI, AND AFTER AN ARGUMENT, THEY HAVE DRAWN THEIR SWORDS.

SAMURAI DRIVE

HE...
WAS
...
...MY LIGHT.
MY FAMILY BECAME TWISTED BY MY MOTHER'S DEATH.
I WAS NEGLECTED BY MY FATHER.
I WAS ALL ALONE. THE ONE WHO SAVED ME WAS...

SEISHIRO.
NOBODY NEEDS ME AROUND.

NO ONE CARES THAT I'M HERE.
NOT MY DAD OR MY BROTHER.
SO PLEASE...
...STAB ME WITH KOUYA, SEISHIRO.
IF I DIE BY THE SAME SWORD MY MOTHER DID...
...I CAN GO TO WHERE SHE IS. I KNOW IT.

I'D BE HEART-BROKEN.
YOU'RE MY PRECIOUS CHILD.
NEVER TALK THAT WAY AGAIN.
THAT WAS...
...ALL I NEEDED.
I'M SORRY I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WANTED TO LEARN THE SWORD BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO DIE.
BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT THE SWORD IS ABOUT. THE SWORD IS A SYMBOL OF THE BEARER'S SPIRIT OF DEVOTION.
IT'S NOT A TOOL FOR KILLING PEOPLE.
HARUMA...
IF THE WORLD FORCED YOU TO SAY THAT...

...I WILL CHANGE IT!
THE DAY SEISHIRO DIED...
...I CRIED.
SNIFF
UGH
I FELT SO HURT AND HELPLESS.
THE FALLEN SWORDSMAN.
NO!
GRIT
SEISHIRO IS NOT THE KIND OF PERSON THAT WOULD MURDER ANYONE WITH A SWORD!
THE ONE WHO MURDERED SEISHIRO...
THESE PEOPLE WHO CAN'T SEE WHO SEISHIRO REALLY WAS...
I SEARCHED FOR THE TRUTH.
I WILL NEVER FORGIVE THEM!

I SPOKE TO EVERY SWORDSMAN I COULD FIND.
SOME IGNORED ME.
I WANDERED.
SOME BEAT ME.
...I COULDN'T STOP MYSELF.
BUT...
IF SEISHIRO WAS INSULTED...

MY GUIDING LIGHT WAS GONE.
...IT WAS LIKE A SWITCH H..D BEEN FLIPPED.
AND I LOST SIGHT OF MYSELF.
KLANG
KLIK
EEK!
EEK!
KLANG
ST-
STOP!
KLANG
KLIK
A RAIN OF RAGE...
WHAT..
WHAT'S WITH YOU MAN?!
HE'S NOT HUMAN!
HELP!
EEK!
...AND PAIN WOULD FALL.
GLARE
KRIIK

SLASSH
HE'S GONNA KILL US!
HE'S A DAEMON!
I COULDN'T SEE...
...ANYTHING AT ALL ANYMORE.

I WILL NEVER FORGIVE HIM.
FROM THAT DAY, WHEN THEY TOOK EVERYTHING FROM ME.

WE'D LOST OUR FOLKS WHEN WE WERE YOUNG.
HE WAS A LOT OLDER THAN WE WERE...
...SO OUR BROTHER RAISED US.
HE ALWAYS DID OUR BEST FOR US.
AND I'M SURE WE WERE A HANDFUL.

BUT THE ONLY ONES WE HAD TO LOOK AFTER US...
...WERE EACH OTHER.
THE BONDS...

...THAT HELD US TOGETHER...
...WERE STRONGER THAN ANYONE'S.

BUT HE WAS SUDDENLY TAKEN FROM US.
YOSHICHIKA...
TAKE CARE OF ITSUKI, OKAY?
THIS MURDER WAS INITIALLY BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN COMMITTED BY SEISHIRO SHINDO, BUT...
MR. ODANI, WHO HAD BEEN ACTING WITH MR. SHINDO, HAS BEEN ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE MURDER IT APPEARS THAT MR. SHINDO IS NOT CONNECTED TO THIS INCIDENT.

HE CALLED MY BROTHER HIS BEST FRIEND, BUT HE NEITHER HELPED NOR DEFENDED HIM.
I WILL NEVER FORGIVE SEISHIRO SHINDO FOR THAT.
HE LAID THE BLAME ON OUR FAMILY AND TOOK OUR BROTHER AWAY FROM US.
...HE WILL BE GONE.
SOON...
ON THE TV SCREEN...
...I SAW THE TRAITOR SMILING AS IF NOTHING WAS WRONG.

THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT.
THAT'S WHY...
...I CAN'T BACK DOWN HERE.
GRIIIT
ESPECIALLY NOT TO HIM...
...THE EMBODIMENT OF SEISHIRO!

はあ
HUFF
HUFF
はあ
PUFF
は
I WILL NOT LOSE TO HIM!
KLAANG
KREEE

UGH!
FWIIISH
SWAASH
KLAKK
POW
COFF

DAMMIT!
DAMMIT!
WHY? WHY?!
DAMMIT ALL...
WHERE DOES THIS WHITE-HAIRED PIPSQUEAK DRAW HIS STRENGTH FROM?!
I...
!

I CAN'T LET MYSELF...
...BE STOPPED HERE AND NOW!
DAMMIT!
DAMN ..

KRAASH

SHAAAA
HARUMA!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ALONE, WITH YOUR SWORD DRAWN?

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AROUND WITHOUT ME? YOUR COMRADE!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS ON YOUR OWN?!
PITT
PITT
PITT
....
...ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE USED LIKE THAT!
FFFF
PUFF
PUFF
SEISHIRO'S SWORD...

PITTER
IBU...
...KI.

KLIIK
SHUT UP, BLONDIE.
WE'RE FIGHTING FOR THE HONOR OF THOSE WE CARE ABOUT AND OUR OWN PRIDE!
STAY OUT OF THIS!
YOSHI...
...CHIKA.
EVEN IF YOU TAKE ME DOWN,
I'LL SNAP THE BLADE OF SEISHIRO'S FILTHY SWORD.

HARUMA!
STOP!

THUMMP

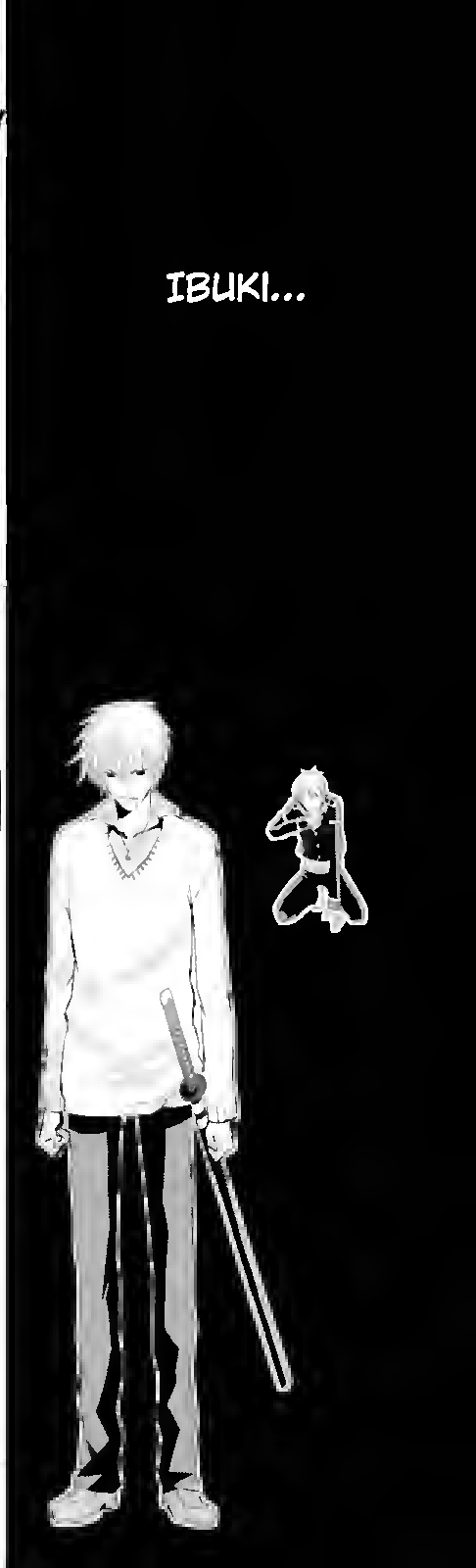
....
HUUMPH
GRIIIT
SHIIICK
SPLAT

SENSYU!
BUT I COULD DO WITHOUT THE HAM-FISTED BEHAVIOR.
SCRITCH
GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT...
...IS WHAT I'D LIKE TO TELL YOU.
HARUMA KOKONOE IS...
HARUMA KOKONOE AND YOSHIOKA SCAM ARE AT THE TOKYO... CRIME SYNDICATE. THE ATTORNEY IS... SENSYU SUDA.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HARUMA?
I'M ONLY SHOWING HIM THE WAY.

THE TRUTH...
...CAN BRING OUT THE BEST IN PEOPLE. I SIMPLY WISHED TO OBSERVE.
I'M HERE TO SEE THE POWER AND BEAUTY OF PASSIONATE INDIVIDUALS.
YOU'RE IRRITATION AT THE FACT THAT HE WENT OFF ALONE...
...AND YOUR POWER-LESSNESS OF BEING UNABLE TO STOP YOUR FRIEND IS QUITE A SIGHT TO BEHOLD.
GAH
YOU...!
YOUR ANGER...
...IS INTERESTING AS WELL.
YOU'VE GOT A SICK HOBBY!
GRIIIT

COFF
AT THAT MOMENT...
...WHEN MY THOUGHTS WERE DROWNED OUT IN A RAIN OF RAGE...
FWOOO
...A LIGHT.
I SAW...
HARUMA!
I THOUGHT...
...I HEARD A VOICE...
BUT...
FWOOO

SHAAA
WOBBLE
KLIKK
SWSSH
!
HUFF
JIN... YOU DON'T THINK THAT YOU SAVED ME OR ANYTHING...
....


IBUKI...

I SAID THAT'S ENOUGH.
THAT'S ENOUGH.
SHOO
!
WHAT?
...THERE'S NO POINT IN KEEPING IT A SECRET.
AFTER COMING THIS FAR...
JIN...
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT.
EVERYTHING?
I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING.
!

KRAAK KRAAK KRAAK
HARUMA...
SEISHIRO...
...AND NOBUCHIKA...
KRAAK
BOTH OF THEM...
I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW.
...DID, IN FACT, COMMIT MURDER.
YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THIS YET.

AND...
...SO DID I.
END

Samurai Drive

SAMURAI DRIVE CHARACTER PROFILE - PART 13

HE'S THE ELDEST SON OF THE ODANI FAMILY, AND HE IS CURRENTLY ON DEATH ROW. HE AND SEISHIRO BECAME THE BEST OF FRIENDS AND ALLIES BY LEARNING THE WAY OF THE SWORD. EVERYTHING ELSE ABOUT THAT IS STILL A SECRET.
HE IS PART OF THE ODANI FAMILY, SO HE LOVES HIS BROTHER AND SISTER VERY MUCH. HE'S VERY COMPASSIONATE AND ALSO OPENLY SHOWS HIS EMOTIONS. HE CAN LAUGH AND CRY IN FRONT OF PEOPLE FREELY.
BY THE WAY, THE NAME ODANI IS A NAME RELATED TO THE SHIGA PREFECTURE. IT'S THE NAME OF A CASTLE. IT'S CLOSE TO THE AUTHOR'S HOME, AND DURING HER PRIMARY SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS, SHE WENT HIKING ON ODANI MOUNTAIN.

NOBUCHIKA ODANI

AGE: 26. HEIGHT: 185CM
ON DEATH ROW

#15: GLORY DAYS

#15: GLORY DAYS

#15: GLORY DAYS

SAMURAI DRIVE CHARACTER PROFILE - PART 14

HE IS IN HIS THIRD YEAR AT SHISEIKAN HIGH SCHOOL. HE COMES OFF AS A LOW-LEVEL THUG, BUT HE'S ACTUALLY QUITE SKILLED. IT'S JUST BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY STANDOUT SWORDSMEN IN THE SECOND-YEAR CLASS, HE DOESN'T STAND OUT AT ALL.
HE'S ACTUALLY VERY SINGLE-MINDED AND STUBBORN. HE'S NOT THE GREATEST PERSON, BUT HE GIVES EVERYTHING HIS BEST.
HE SEES JIN AS HIS MORTAL ENEMY AND KEEPS CHALLENGING HIM WITH THE SWORD, BUT HE LOSES EVERY TIME.
HE STILL DOESN'T GIVE UP, THOUGH.

TASUKU SERIZAWA

AGE: 18 THIRD-YEAR STUDENT HEIGHT: 185CM KEY FEATURE (?): DROOPY EYES

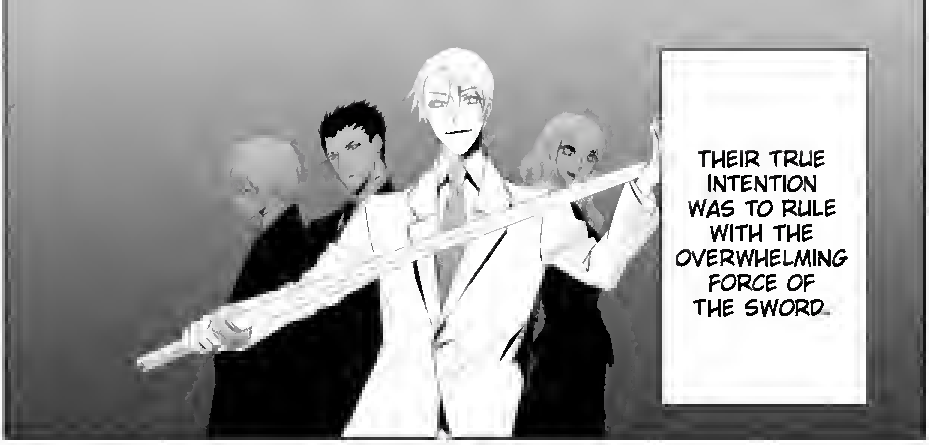
HUFF
COFF
WHAT...
...DID YOU SAY?
SPIT IT OUT!
TELL ME EVERYTHING!
PULL

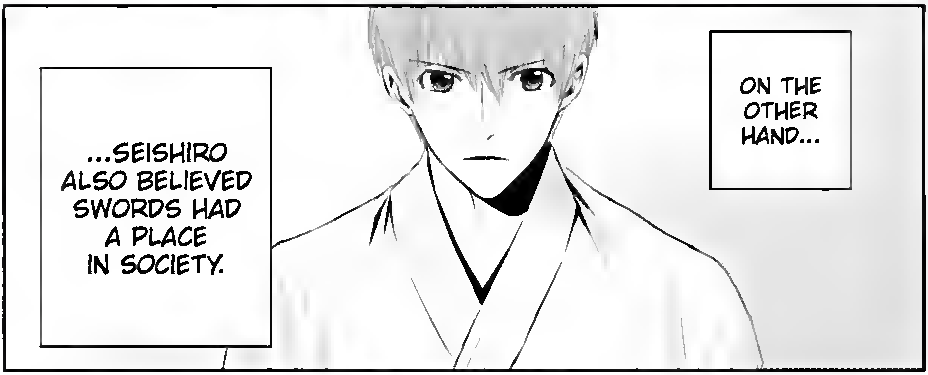
ONLY THE DESCENDANTS OF SAMURAI HAVE THE RIGHT TO BEAR SWORDS.
THAT MEANS MANY SWORD-BEARERS ARE FROM DISTINGUISHED OR POWERFUL FAMILIES.
SOME OF SWORD-BEARERS WANT TO RULE BY FEAR USING THE "POWER" OF THE SWORD.
THESE ARE THE EXTREMISTS.
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT!
IT DOESN'T HAVE MUCH TO DO WITH COMMON SWORDSMEN LIKE US.
BUREAUCRATS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
WEALTHY PEOPLE
...IT'S NOT WELL-KNOWN...
...BUT MANY PEOPLE WHO CONTROL THE DIRECTION OF JAPAN WERE AMONG THEIR RANKS.
....

"WERE"?
NOW FAR FEWER PEOPLE IN POWER ARE EXTREMISTS.
WHY?
BECAUSE THEY'RE GONE.
DO YOU REMEMBER THAT BEFORE SEISHIRO DIED...
...THE MOVEMENT TO BAN SWORDS WAS NOT AS INTENSE?
THAT WAS BECAUSE OF SEISHIRO.

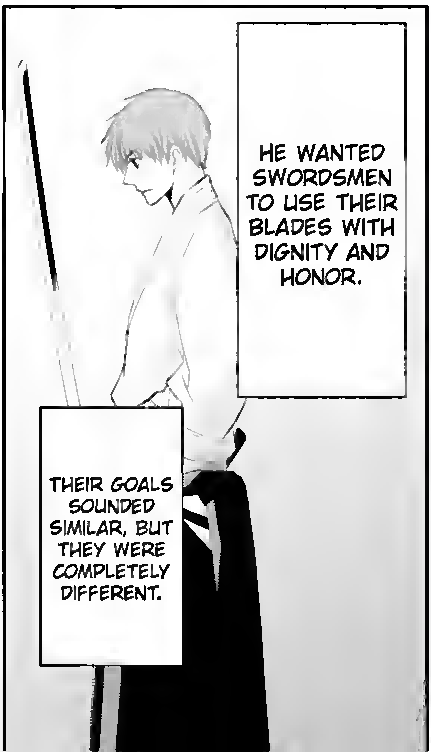
BUT THEY WERE ACTUALLY DIVIDED INTO MANY DIFFERENT FACTIONS, SUCH AS THOSE WHO FAVORED PRESERVING OR BANNING BEARING SWORDS.
THE FACTION WITH THE MOST POWER HAD THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE...
THE EXTREMISTS.
SEISHIRO WAS ONE OF THE MOST WIDELY RESPECTED SWORDSMEN.
HE WAS ALMOST LIKE A SPOKESPERSON FOR THEM.

THEIR MESSAGE WAS CLEAR.
RECENTLY, THERE HAS BEEN A DRAMATIC INCREASE IN VIOLENT CRIME.
SOME HAVE EVEN LOST THEIR LIVES TO THESE VICIOUS CRIMINALS.
WE MUST FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE.
SWORDS HAVE A PLACE IN SOCIETY.
WE CARRY SWORDS TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF OUR NATION.
BUT IT WAS ALL SMOKE AND MIRRORS.


THEIR TRUE INTENTION WAS TO RULE WITH THE OVERWHELMING FORCE OF THE SWORD.


...SEISHIRO ALSO BELIEVED SWORDS HAD A PLACE IN SOCIETY.
ON THE OTHER HAND...

...IN ORDER TO KEEP THE EXTREMISTS IN CHECK AND TO PROVIDE A SENSE OF SECURITY TO CIVILIANS.
HE NEVER WANTED TO BE A PUBLIC FIGURE, BUT HE GRADUALLY BECAME THE POSTER BOY FOR THE WORLD OF THE SWORD...


HE WANTED SWORDSMEN TO USE THEIR BLADES WITH DIGNITY AND HONOR.
THEIR GOALS SOUNDED SIMILAR, BUT THEY WERE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

THE SWORD IS A SIGN OF ONE'S DEVOTION TO SINCERITY...
SEISHIRO SHINDO...
WHAT AN EMBAR-RASSMENT.
YOU'VE GOT IT BACKWARD.
BECAUSE HE HAS THAT CLEAN PUBLIC IMAGE, WE ALL END UP LOOKING GOOD.
IT HELPS US MOVE AROUND EASIER.
HEE HEE
HA HA HA
....
GRIIIP
HE KNEW...
...HE WAS BEING USED AS A FRONT FOR THEM.
BUT EVEN SO...
HEY...

COOL SWORDSMEN LIKE YOU WILL PROTECT US, RIGHT?
HE HAD PEOPLE TO PROTECT.
I'M SORRY WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.
BUT WE'VE PUT THE BURDEN OF DEALING WITH THE EXTREMISTS ENTIRELY ON YOUR SHOULDERS.
SEISHIRO HAD IT ALL.
HE HAD SKILL WITH THE SWORD, CAME FROM A RESPECTED FAMILY, WAS WELL-SPOKEN, AND WAS INFLUENTIAL.
IT'S OKAY.
AND A GOOD NATURE.

HE HAD EVERYTHING HE NEEDED TO INFLUENCE BOTH THE EXTREMISTS AND THE PUBLIC AT LARGE.
SEISHIRO, WITH YOU HERE, THE WORLD OF THE SWORD WILL BE SAFE FOR YEARS TO COME.

SEISHIRO BECAME THE WALL BETWEEN BOTH SIDES...
...AND SHOULDERED THE ENTIRE WORLD OF THE SWORD.

SEISHIRO CONTINUED TO REASON WITH THE EXTREMISTS.
THE SWORD SHOULD NOT BE USED AS WAY TO CONTROL PEOPLE.
IT SHOULD ONLY BE USED TO PROTECT OTHERS.
ISN'T THAT WHAT POWER IS FOR?
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY.
BECAUSE WE HAVE POWER, THE MASSES SUBMIT TO US.
THIS PRIVILEGE EXISTS FOR US AS THE CHOSEN PEOPLE.
NO... THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH THAT!
WHY WON'T YOU UNDERSTAND ?!
BUT SEISHIRO'S WORDS WOULD NOT REACH THEM, AND THINGS TOOK A TURN FOR THE WORSE.

ALL I DID WAS SILENCE...
...THESE ANNOYING OBJECTORS.
TRY TO BAN SWORDS WILL THEY?
INTERFERING WITH US IS THE WORST SORT OF FOOLISHNESS.
I WON'T LET ANYONE STAND IN OUR WAY.
WE WILL CUT OUR WAY THROUGH THOSE WHO TRY TO STOP US.
HE SAID THAT WITH THE MANNER OF SOMEONE WHO HAD SWATTED A FLY!
HOW COULD YOU!

THE POLICE AND BUREAUCRATS WILL ALL UNDERSTAND.
WE HAVE MANY ALLIES AMONG THEM.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
NOW THEN. SHALL WE SAY THIS INCIDENT WAS CAUSED BY AN ORDINARY PERSON GETTING THEIR HANDS ON A SWORD?
THIS WILL BECOME A VALUABLE FACTOR GETTING OUR SWORD-BEARING RIGHTS ENHANCEMENT BILL PASSED.
...SHOULD BE CONTROLLED BY US, THE CHOSEN ONES.
THE FOOLISH AND WEAK...

OTHERWISE THERE WILL BE MORE VICTIMS.
PATT
IF YOU...
...CHOOSE TO BE UPSET OVER THIS, BE WARY OF HOW YOU DO IT.
THEY WOULD NEVER LISTEN.
IT DIDN'T MATTER WHAT WE SAID.
I WAS AFRAID.
WE WERE UNDER THEIR RULE.
THEY WOULD USE ANY MEANS NECESSARY TO CREATE THE FUTURE THEY ENVISIONED.

GRIIT
EVEN AS A CHILD, I UNDERSTOOD COMPLETELY.
UNLESS THEY WERE STOPPED, IT WOULD BE THE END OF THE SWORD.
AND THIS COUNTRY!
SHINDO DOJO

KLUNK
SEISHIRO?
KREEK

BA-DUMP
THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON.
WHY WOULD SEISHIRO...
...LEAVE KOUYA BEHIND?
NO, HE COULDN'T...

HE WOULDN'T!
NO...
NO!

SEISHIRO!
SHWWSSH

SEISHIRO!
SEISHIRO!
HA
SEISHIRO...
NOBUCHIKA...
I'VE KILLED FOR THE FIRST TIME...
....

IT'S NOT RIGHT.
TH-THIS...

THIS IS WRONG!
THAT MAY BE...
THAT'S NOT RIGHT! YOU'RE COMMITTING MURDER!
BUT EVEN SO...
...IF THERE'S NO OTHER WAY TO STOP THE TYRANNY OF THE EXTREMISTS...

...THEN THIS IS THE "RIGHT" PATH.
THIS IS MY PATH OF "RIGHTEOUSNESS" TO DEFEND PEOPLE AND THE SWORD.
FROM THIS DAY...
....
WE WENT INTO A BLOODY CONFLICT WITH THE EXTREMISTS.

....
KRAAK
!
GET OUT OF THE WAY!
HIDEHITO, IT'S FINE.
JIN! YOU WERE AN ACCOMPLICE?!
!
THAT'S RIGHT.

HIDEHITO, I DON'T NEED YOU TO DEFEND ME.
NO!
NOT ONCE DID SEISHIRO MAKE ME ACCOMPANY HIM.
EVEN SO...
ALTHOUGH I KNEW IT WAS UNFORGIVEABLE, I UNDERSTOOD HIS GOALS, SO I COULD NOT STOP HIM OR SAVE HIM...
IF A PERSON YOU HOLD DEAR IS WILLINGLY PUTTING HIMSELF INTO DANGER, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
THAT SIN IS THE SAME AS MURDER.
THERE WASN'T ANYTHING WE COULD DO UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
NO MATTER THE REASON, THERE IS NO JUSTICE IN MURDERING OTHERS.
BUT IF WE DIDN'T DO WHAT WE DID, THE EXTREMISTS' REIGN OF TERROR WOULD'VE BECOME A REALITY.
AND THE WORLD WOULD BE A VERY DIFFERENT PLACE.

SEISHIRO'S DEATH PLAYED RIGHT INTO THEIR HANDS.
BUT, FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE, HIS DEATH COMPLETELY TURNED THE SOCIAL CLIMATE IN FAVOR OF BANNING SWORDS.
THE REMAINING EXTREMISTS ARE GATHERING THEIR STRENGTH.
THEN...
WHAT CAN WE DO?
THOSE WHO WOULD BAN SWORDS ...
...THE EXTREMISTS, PUBLIC OPINION...
CONSIDERING ALL OF THIS, WE WILL LIKELY BE THE LAST SWORDSMEN.
WHO IS OUR REAL ENEMY?
WHO SHOULD WE FIGHT?

WHO CARES?
SO MY BROTHER REALLY DID MURDER PEOPLE...!
THMMP
THE ONLY REASON NOBUCHIKA MURDERED SOMEONE ...
...WAS BECAUSE HE FELL INTO A TRAP BY THE EXTREMISTS WHO HATED SEISHIRO.
SEISHIRO WAS THERE WITH HIM, BUT NOBUCHIKA ENTRUSTED THE FUTURE TO SEISHIRO AND...
HE NEVER SPOKE ABOUT THIS TO PROTECT HIS FRIENDS?
BROTHER...
....

KRUNCH
!

IBUKI...
!
I ALSO BELIEVE IN SEISHIRO SHINDO.
HARUMA.
I JUST NEED YOU...
...TO TELL ME ONE THING!

WHO WAS IT?
IF SEISHIRO REALLY KILLED AN INNOCENT PERSON...
...THEN THE PERSON WHO KILLED HIM WAS...
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT BETTER THAN ANYONE.
BUT I CAN SAY THAT HE WILL NEVER KILL AN INNOCENT PERSON INTENTIONALLY.
THERE'S A CHANCE THAT HE WAS TRAPPED BY SOMEONE.
EVEN I DON'T KNOW THE TRUTH BEHIND THAT INCIDENT.
SEISHIRO...
THE SEISHIRO YOU SAW IS THE REAL SEISHIRO.
YOU CAN BELIEVE IN THAT.

OKAY.
THEN NOTHING'S CHANGED.
I KNOW WHAT I NEED TO DO.
UNTIL THE DAY I FIND OUT...
...THE ONE WHO KILLED SEISHIRO...

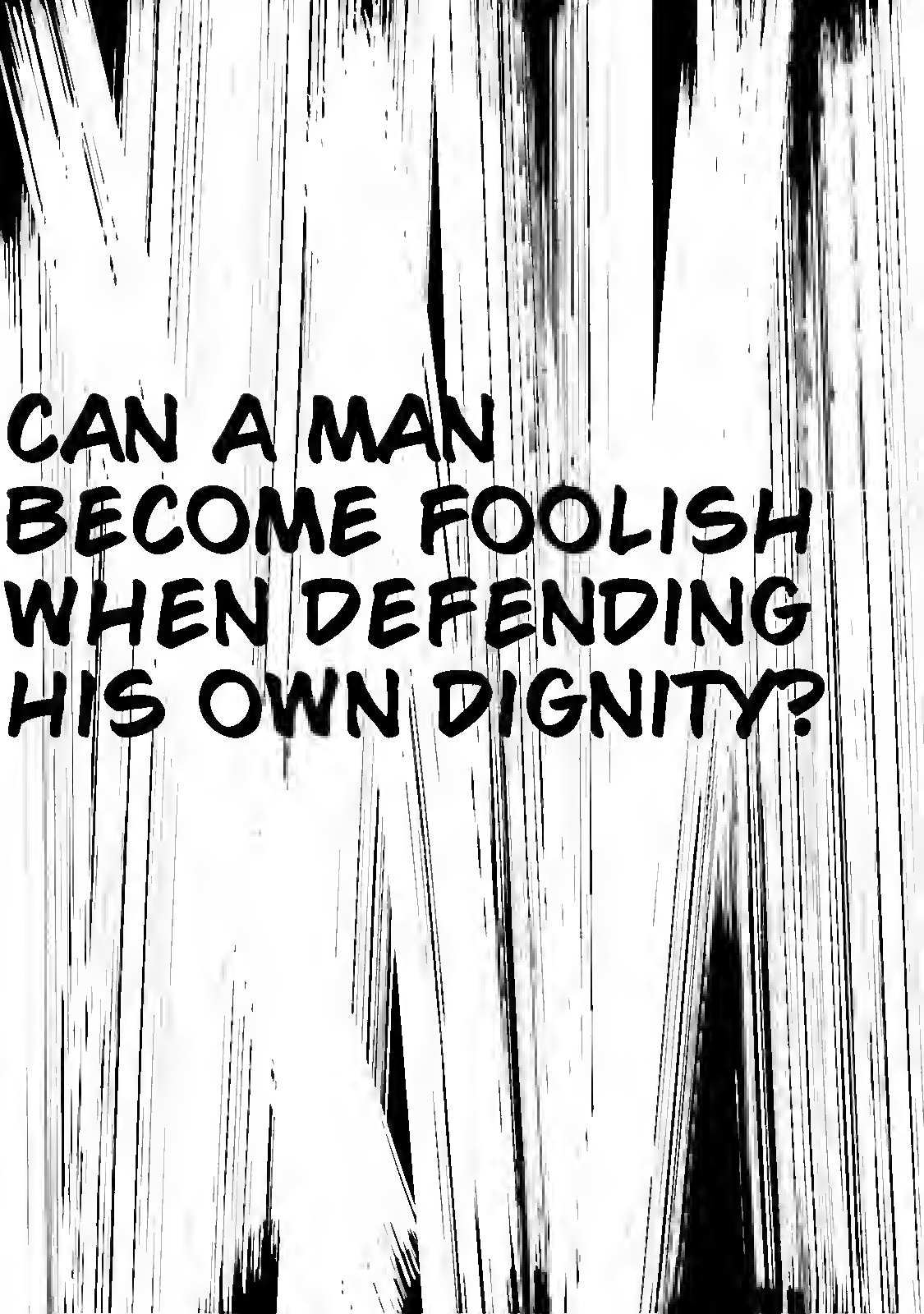
THE DAY OF THE SHISEI FESTIVAL HAS FINALLY COME!
YES, IT HAS!
SO, HEY! WHY IS IT THAT THE ATMOSPHERE ...
HEY, HAJIME!
IT'S TOMORROW!
YES!
YES, IT IS!
Arrhhhh
WE DON'T HAVE TIME OR ENOUGH PEOPLE GET STUFF DONE!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU SEEM DOWN.
WHERE'S IBUKI? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR A WEEK.
IBUKI...
PROBABLY
ARRHH
...IS SO GLOOMY?

IBUKI...
KA-CHUNK
KA-CHUNK
END
...WON'T COME BACK.
I WENT LOOKING FOR HIM.
FOR A WHILE.
BUT HE WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND.
OH. WHAT'S THAT?
IS IT OKAY IF I ASK?
IF I ASK...
....
....
I GIVE UP.

SAMURAI DRIVE CHARACTER PROFILE - PART 15

SECRETARY:	VICE PRESIDENT:
ROKUSHO	RAIOH

THE STUDENT COUNCIL SECRETARY, ROKUSHO, IS A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT IS A SECOND-YEAR STUDENT. IT'S QUITE OBVIOUS THAT ROKUSHO REALLY RESPECTS MINAMOTO AND JOINED THE STUDENT COUNCIL BECAUSE OF HIM, BUT RAIOH RESPECTS MINAMOTO AS MUCH. THE THREE OF THEM ARE HELD TOGETHER BY A STRONG BOND OF TRUST.
THE MINIATURE VERSION I DREW OF RAIOH HAS HIS REJECTED VERSION OF HIS HAIRSTYLE. THIS IS THE ONLY PICTURE I HAVE OF HIM DRAWN IN MINIATURE. HE LOOKS LIKE A FRIVOLOUS GUY, BUT HE'S ACTUALLY VERY SERIOUS.
THE NAMES COME FROM CERTAIN WORDS USED WHEN I SAW A TV PROGRAM ABOUT TEMPLES. A LOT OF THE WORDS SOUNDED VERY COOL.


CAN A MAN
BECOME FOOLISH
WHEN DEFENDING
HIS OWN DIGNITY?

FROM THE MOMENT I FIRST SAW HIM...
I COULDN'T LOOK AWAY.
NEVER AGAIN...
...WILL I LET ANYONE TAKE ANYTHING FROM ME.
WHAT HE SAID WAS SIMILAR TO WHAT I ALWAYS SAID.

#16: LION HEART

KRAKK
D-DAMMIT!
AHHH!
GRABB
PLOPP
I'LL BE TAKING THIS.
AND YOUR MONEY.
HAND IT OVER.
FIRST-YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL—HIS WILD YEARS.
IBUKI TAKAHARA.
NOT MUCH...
HE'S A FAMOUS HOODLUM AROUND HERE.
HE'S MAKING LOTS OF ENEMIES.
HE HAS THE SWORD-BEARING PRIVILEGE, BUT HE'S STEALING SWORDS.
PSST
EVEN THE ADULTS CAN'T STOP HIM.
ASSAULT, EXTORTION, WHAT HASN'T HE DONE?
PSST

PEOPLE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FOOD CHAIN BRING OUT PEOPLE'S SADISTIC SIDE.
FROM THERE, I LEARNED ...
HELLO AGAIN.
WE WERE POOR, AND PART OF THE LOWEST CLASS OF THEM.
THERE ARE CLASSES EVEN AMONG THE ONES WITH SWORD-BEARING PRIVILEGE.
I HAVE TO PROTECT MY POSITION,
MY SENSE OF WORTH, AND MY PRIDE...
...EVEN IF I HAVE TO STEAL TO DO IT.
THANK YOU AGAIN.
WHUUP
...THAT TO LIVE...
MOM, HERE'S THE MONEY FROM MY PART TIME JOB.
IBUKI!
IBUKI!
IBUKI!

HEY!
YOU!
SHFFLE
SO, IT'S YOU, HUH?
YOU'RE THE COCKY LITTLE MIDDLE SCHOOLER.
AHHHH!
RAGH
SHWSSH
KRAKK

FWOOSH
?!
LONG HAIR...
A WOMAN?!
H...
PSST
PSST
PSST
PSST
PSST
WHAT WAS THAT?
SCARY
I KNOW...
SEISHIRO, HURRY.
FWOOSH
!@#$%
C'MERE!

YOU KNOW ...
IT WAS THANKS TO MY QUICK FEET THAT YOU'RE STILL ALIVE.
WHO ARE YOU?!
WHAT ARE YOU?
YOU CAN CALL ME ERINA!
エリナって呼んでね!
I'M ERINA TOBA.
YOU'RE THE FAMOUS IBUKI TAKAHARA, RIGHT?
DON'T MEAN TO BE RUDE, BUT...
YOU'RE GONNA DIE AT THIS RATE.
SHE TOLD ME...
...SHE WAS IN A SIMILAR SITUATION AS ME.
YOU'RE DOING CRAZY THINGS.
I CAN'T LEAVE YOU ALONE
ON TOP OF THAT, HER OLDER BROTHER WAS DOING THE SAME THINGS AS ME AND LOST HIS LIFE.

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY...
YEAH, SO WE ARE IN THE SAME SITUATION.
BUT...
...FOR ME TO PROTECT MYSELF AND MY FAMILY.
SO, WHAT ELSE AM I SUPPOSED TO DO, HUH?
I DON'T NEED YOUR SYMPATHY! THAT MAKES ME SICK!
YOU'RE GIVING ME A LECTURE?
...THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW?!
PFFT
HOW...
KRUMMP
BUT YOU KNOW WHAT?!
IF I KNEW, I'D BE DOING IT MYSELF!
WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID?

YOU DON'T KNOW EITHER.
I DON'T KNOW.
IF THAT ANSWER WAS OUT OF SYMPATHY OF KINDNESS, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN DRAWN TO IT.
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL BUT, BUT I'LL STILL STOP YOU.
It's too dangerous!
...EVERY-THING YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW.
YOU DON'T KNOW. THAT'S WHY YOU'RE DOING...

HEY, IBUKI! YOU FIGHTING AGAIN?!
!!
KLANG
TCH
ERINA! STOP THAT!
BUT ERINA...
THIS THING HERE IS THE INFAMOUS IBUKI TAKAHARA, YUKA
OH, HI! I'M YUKA OZAWA
THIS THING?
GRRR
I'M SO WORRIED ABOUT IBUKI
IBUKI!!
BUK
WE MOVED TO THE COUNTRYSIDE HERE TO TRY TO GET AWAY FROM THE KANTO REGION. HE'S WORKING SO HARD FOR US.
M-HE'S DOING FINE
BY DOING REALLY SHADY STUFF.
SHE TRULY SEES THE SAME THINGS I DO.
SLOSSH
...DO YOU DYE YOUR HAIR SUCH A BRIGHT BLONDE?
WHY...

OH THIS?
HEE HEE
I'M AIMING TO BE A LION.
UH-HUH.
I KNEW YOU WERE A BLITHERING IDIOT.
THEY'RE STRONG, PROUD AND THE KING OF ALL BEASTS!
DON'T CALL ME AN IDIOT! IT MEANS I LIKE IT THAT MUCH!
NOTHING'S COOLER!
BESIDES, I'M REALLY FAST. JUST LIKE A LION, RIGHT?
STRTTCH
WIDE OPEN
UM, YOUR LEGS...
You're still a girl, you know.
THE NOBLE LION IS SO COOL.
IT'S PROUD AND STRONG NO MATTER WHAT.
I WANT TO BE LIKE THE LION AND DRIVE THROUGH ANY OBSTACLE WITH MY HEAD HELD HIGH.
SHE LOOKED...

I CAN'T BELIEVE I...
...RADIANT.
ONLY MALES HAVE MANES, DUMMY.
BESIDES...
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE STRONG.
キョト
BLANNK
BLUSH
Huh? WHY?
DON'T MAKE ME SAY THE WHOLE THING.
みなまで言わせんな。
BECAUSE I'LL P-PROTECT YOU...
WHA—?
I'LL PASS.
I CAN PROTECT MYSELF.
GRRRR!
I'LL PASS.
I'LL PASS.
WHAAA
HA HA!
SORRY.
WAH, WHAT AM I DISAPPOINTED ABOUT?

THANK YOU.
BA-DUMP ドキッ
!
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING ...
I GUESS ...
I'M NOT CRYING.
SNIFF
...YOU CARED ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS SO MUCH, IBUKI!
SHOCK
MY HEART'S POUNDING? I'VE GOTTA GET A GRIP.
IT'S LIKE A GIRL'S COMIC.
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW...

...SO CLUELESS.
鈍感すぎ。。。
THIS WAS HIS RITE OF PASSAGE FOR HIS FIRST LOVE DURING THE EARLY SUMMER OF HIS FIRST YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL.
おくるべき
IBUKI TAKAHARA.
SHE'S...
OKAY.
I'LL JUST TAKE IT SLOW.
KREEP
SO...
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
WSSSH
LOOK.
SEISHIRO SHINDO.
THERE'S GOING TO BE A LECTURE HERE TODAY.
ACTUALLY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WHY ARE YOU HIDING?
I'M HIDING BECAUSE YOU CAUSED TROUBLE AND GOT BANNED FROM THIS PLACE!
....
SORRY.

THE SWORD MUST NEVER BE USED TO HURT.
IT IS FOR PROTECTING OTHERS.
HE WAS CALLED A LIVING LEGEND.
...WAS LOOKED UP TO EVERY SWORD-BEARER AT LEAST ONE POINT IN THEIR LIFE.
YOU MAY SEE SWORD-FIGHTING SCENES ON TELEVISION.
BUT NONE OF THAT IS REALISTIC.
HA HA
THAT MAN...
YEAH? LET'S KEEP LISTENING.
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I SAW HIM.
THOSE WHO HOLD THE SWORD-BEARING PRIVILEGE MUST ALWAYS KEEP THIS IN MIND.
BUT AT THE TIME, I...
....

REALLY? I DON'T THINK SO.
SEISHIRO SAID REALLY GOOD THINGS.
STINNG
HE'S A HYPOCRITE.
STINNG
STINNG
GOOD THINGS?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HE CAN ONLY SAY THAT BECAUSE HE'S NEVER BEEN POOR.
STINNG
YOU WENT THROUGH HELL TOO! YOU SHOULD KNOW WHAT I MEAN!
I ALSO KNOW YOUR WAY ISN'T THE RIGHT WAY!
THIS WAS SALT IN MY WOUNDS.

THERE WILL COME A TIME WHEN YOU CAN'T PROTECT ANYONE ANYMORE!
IT CONTINUES TO STING...
ARE YOU ON THAT SEISHIRO'S SIDE?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!
WE SAW THE SAME THINGS. WE WENT THROUGH THE SAME THINGS. IT FELT AS IF SOMETHING PRECIOUS WAS TAKEN FROM ME.
THAT FAINT EMOTION TURNED INTO A HAZE...
HEY.
BUT EVEN THOSE EMOTIONS...
...WERE TAKEN AWAY IN AN INSTANT.
IBUKI TAKAHARA. COME WITH US FOR A SECOND.
END

#17: LION MANE

RAAGH!
KLAAK
HOLD STILL!
IBUKI!
THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM...
DAMMIT...
BAMM
SMAKK
POW
C'MON!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, HUH?!
IT'S ALMOST HOPELESS...
HUFF
GOTCHA!

BOOF
AHHHHHH!
SLAM
TAKE A LOOK.
HA HA!
GRIPP...
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR GETTING IN THE WAY, BRAT!
DIE!
AHHHHH!
SMAK
SERVES YOU RIGHT, HUH? YOU CAN'T EVEN PROTECT A SINGLE GIRL.
SMAK
STOP IT...
SHE HAD TO PROTECT YOU INSTEAD.
STOP.
GRRRR

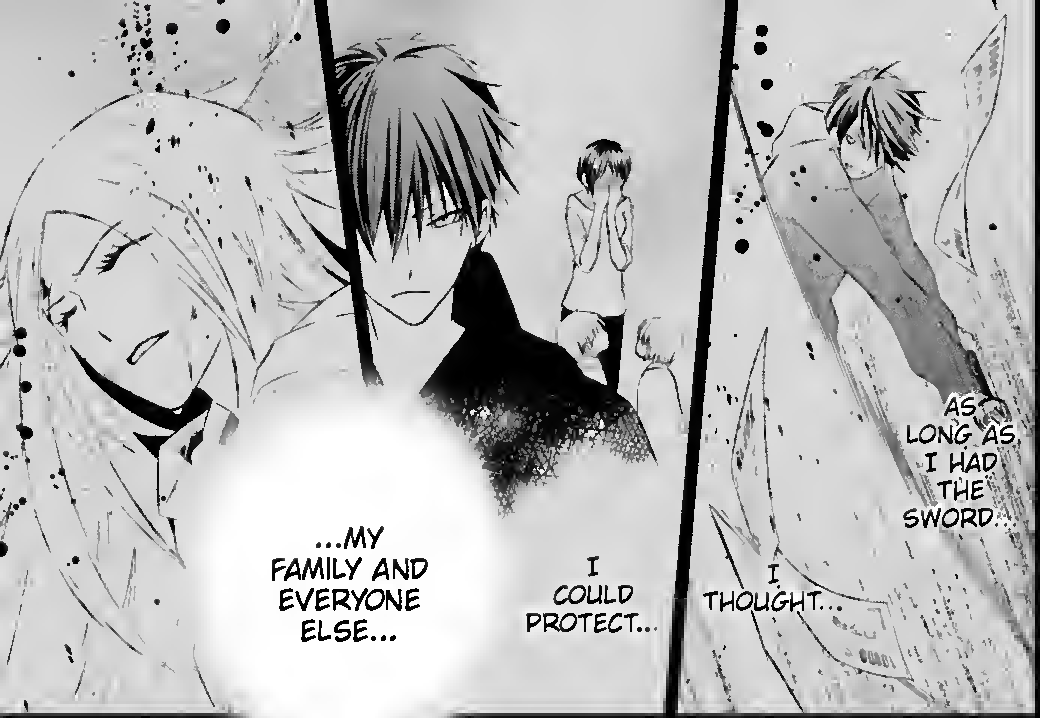
POW
SMAK
DROP DEAD!
BASH
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET AWAY WITH THIS!
KNOCK IT OFF!
IBU...
KI
PUFF
DIE!
GRAAB
I'LL KILL YOU ALL!

A SWORDS-MAN...
ENOUGH.
KRSSH
SKRCCH
?!
SHWIP
WOOSH
...MUST NEVER USE HIS SWORD...
THUDD
...TO TAKE A LIFE.

EEK!
SWIISH
I SAID ENOUGH!
MURDER IS NEVER ACCEPT-ABLE ...
...NO MATTER WHAT THE CIRCUM-STANCES.
TCH!
EASY FOR YOU TO TALK!
THE SWORD IS MEANT TO PROTECT OTHERS.

PEOPLE LIKE US AT THE BOTTOM HAVE TO UNSHEATHE OUR BLADES AND FIGHT.
I HAVE TO KILL OR BE KILLED!
YOU CAN ONLY SAY THAT...
...BECAUSE THE WORLD YOU LIVE IN IS SOFT!
THAT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SURVIVE!
CAN YOU SAY THE SAME THING AFTER LOOKING AT HER?

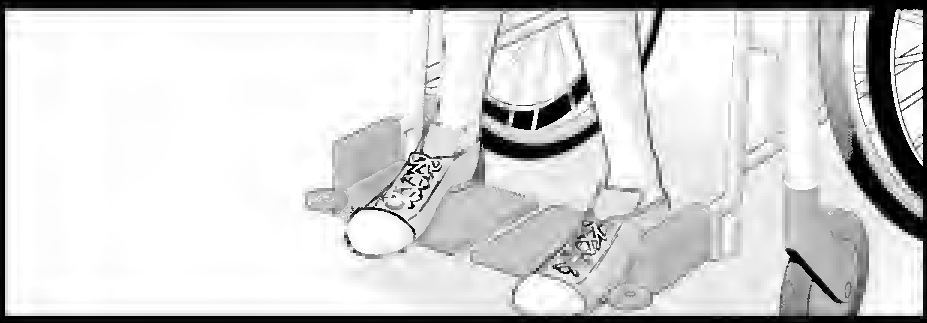
!
IF YOU CHOSE NOT TO FIGHT...
...AND RAN AWAY WITH HER QUICKLY...
...SHE MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN CUT LIKE THIS.
NO GOOD COMES FROM IT.
NOTHING JUSTIFIES KILLING.



STRENGTH WAS EVERYTHING.

THAT'S WHAT I BELIEVED.

ERINA LOST THE USE OF BOTH OF HER LEGS.



NOW SHE WOULD NEVER RUN LIKE A PROUD LION AGAIN.

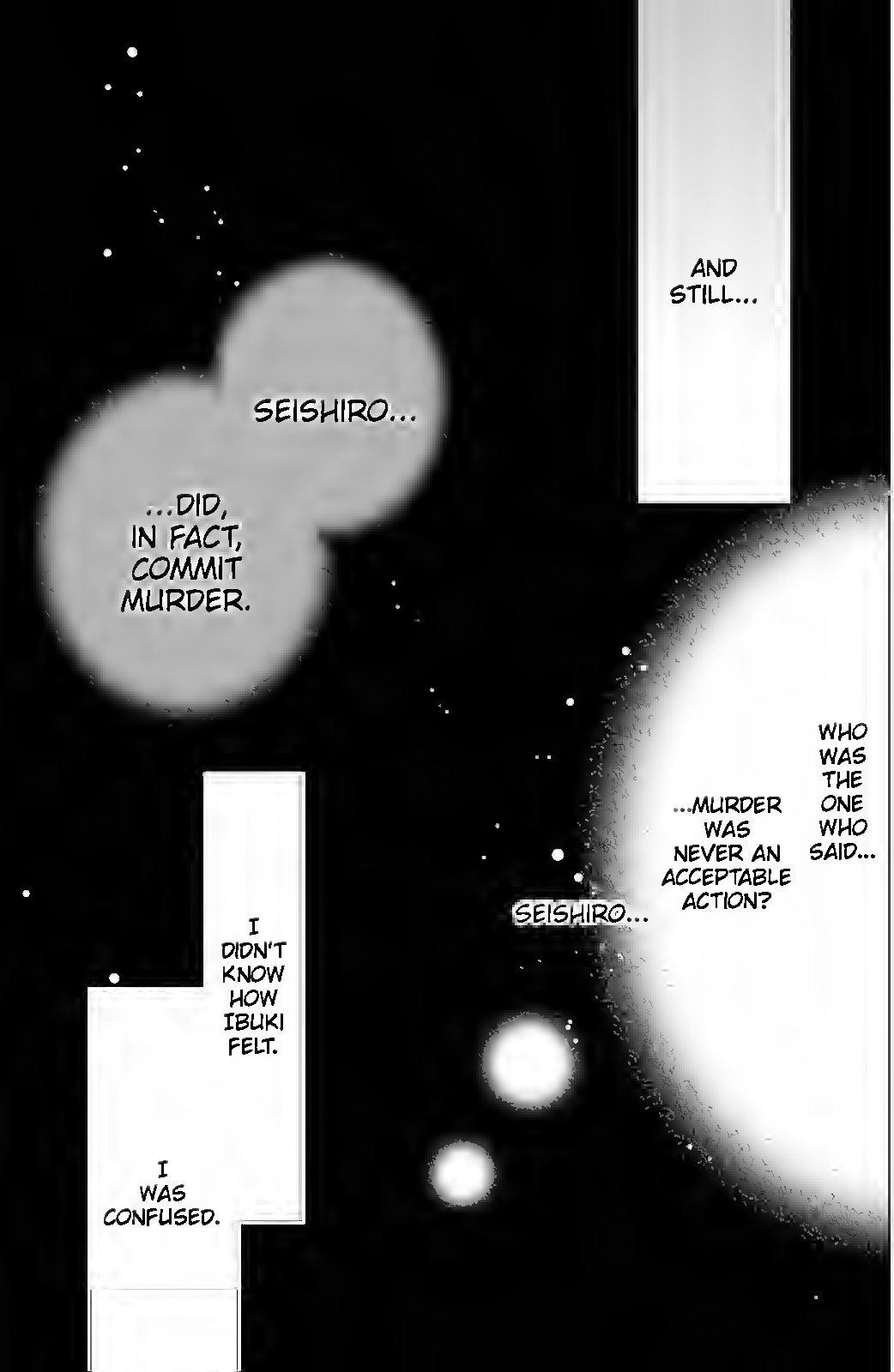
I COMMITTED AN UNFORGIVABLE SIN.

I THOUGHT THAT IF I WAS STRONGER...
I COULD PROTECT EVERYTHING I LOVED.
BUT...
THE SWORD IS USED TO PROTECT OTHERS.
BUT YOU CANNOT LET RAGE OVERTAKE YOUR SOUL.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
AS LONG AS YOU UNDERSTAND THAT...

YOU CAN WIELD THE SWORD TO PROTECT OTHERS.
SNIFF
I CAN'T LOOK ERINA IN THE EYES EVER AGAIN.
HOW CAN I ATONE FOR THIS?
....
WHAT...
...SHOULD I DO?

....
DO NOT SPEAK OF "ATONEMENT" LIGHTLY.
THE WEIGHT OF YOUR ACTIONS IS YOUR BURDEN TO BEAR.
YOU...
...ARE SIMILAR TO SOMEONE I CARE FOR.
HE ALSO FOUGHT SINCE HE WAS SMALL, ALL ALONE.
THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T LEAVE HIM BE.

DEFEND THE FUTURE OF THE SWORD.
SO, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK BOTH OF YOU...
...TO TAKE THE FUTURE INTO YOUR OWN HANDS.
AFTER-WARD..
..I REPRESENTED MY NEWFOUND STRENGTH WITH MY GOLDEN HAIR.
AND HARUMA AND I FOUGHT TOGETHER.


AND STILL...
SEISHIRO...
...DID, IN FACT, COMMIT MURDER.
WHO WAS THE ONE WHO SAID...
...MURDER WAS NEVER AN ACCEPTABLE ACTION?
SEISHIRO...
I DIDN'T KNOW HOW IBUKI FELT.
I WAS CONFUSED.

POPP
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THE SHISEI FESTIVAL IS TOMORROW!
WHERE IS...
...IBUKI?
....
....
....
WHAAA
RMMBLE
IBUKI'S...
HE IS...
YOU GUYS ARE ALWAYS TOGETHER!
THIS ISN'T GOOD.
HEY, HARUMA! GO GET IBUKI AND BRING HIM HERE!

BUT WHY?
I'M JUST AS SHOCKED.
WE SHOULD FEEL THE SAME.
BUT THE INSIDE OF MY HEAD IS...
HE PROBABLY DOESN'T WANT TO SEE ANYONE RELATED TO SEISHIRO.
...WANTS TO BE ALONE RIGHT NOW.
IBUKI...
AFTER CONTEMPLATING EVERYTHING ALONE...
...というのを一人で悶々と考えた結果
THIS IS ANNOYING!
TALKING IN FRAGMENTS...
HE'S BEING HIS USUAL SELF.
HARUMA IS BEING ALL FIDGETY.
BZZ
WE DON'T KNOW EITHER!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
FIGGIT
GLEAM

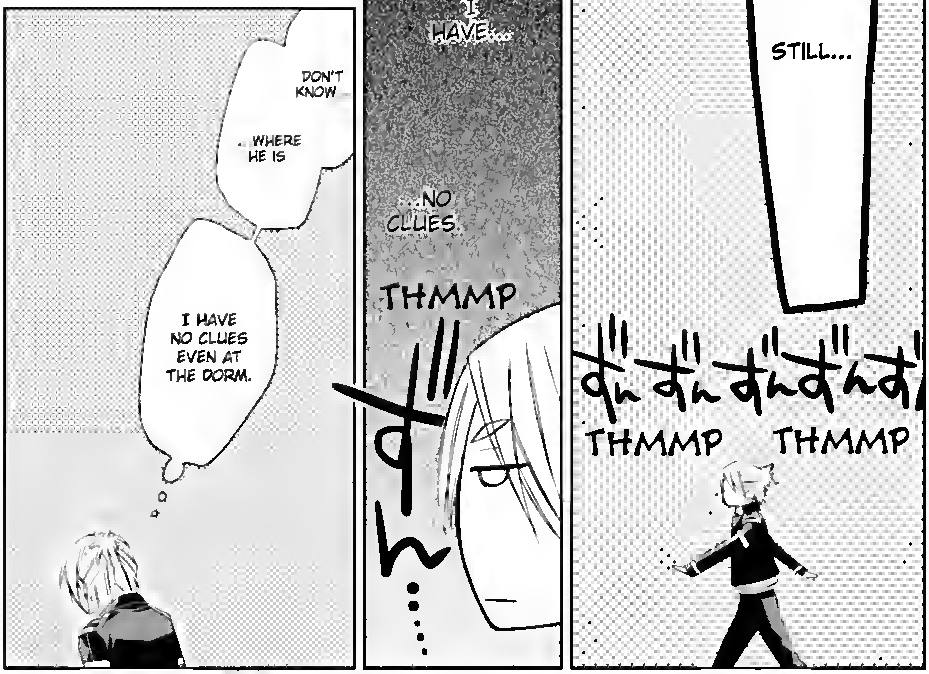
ONE-TWO
SLAPP
AHHH
WOW!
GOOD JOB, SHIROU!
....
IT'S CALLED TOUGH LOVE!
WOOHOO!
SNIFF
?!
?!
!?

HEY, HARUMA. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU AND IBUKI...
BUT THIS YEAR'S SHISEI FESTIVAL IS SPECIAL. YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?

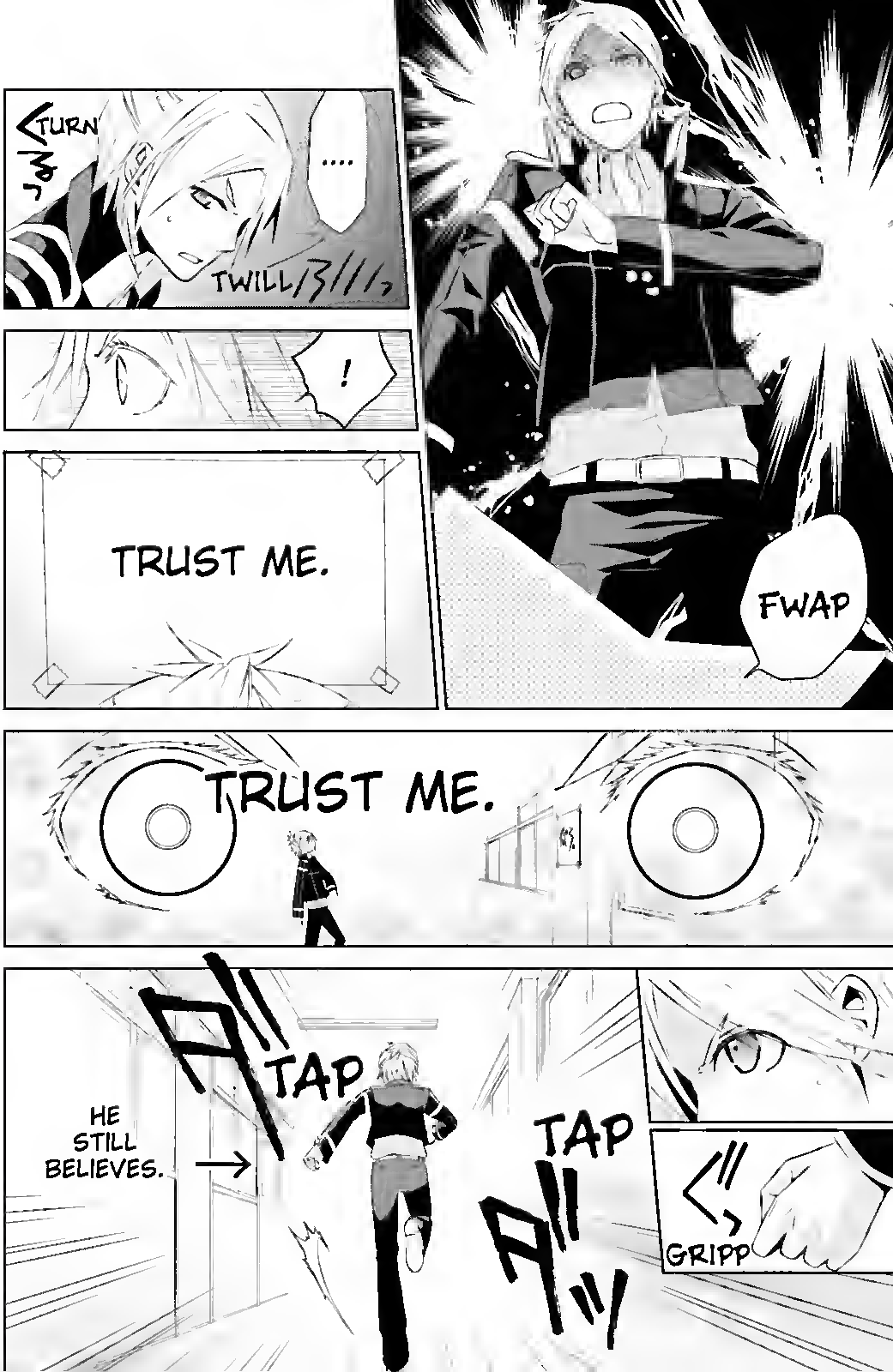
IT MAY BE THE LAST ONE.
WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE IS PRETTY MUCH WITHOUT PERMISSION ANYWAY.

THAT'S WHY...
...IT'S MEANINGLESS UNLESS OUR CLASS IS ALL HERE!
AT THE VERY LEAST, YOU SHOULD CHERISH MOMENTS LIKE THESE WITH US.
IF YOU DO, WE'LL SHOW YOU A NEW WORLD THAT YOU COULDN'T SEE ON YOUR OWN!
I'M SURE OF IT! I'LL DEFINITELY SHOW YOU!

THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO BE RESERVED AND QUIET.
CLASS 1-1 IS MISSING SOME IMPORTANT PIECES FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE SHISEI FESTIVAL.
BOOF
THAT WOULD BE THE CURRENTLY MISSING TAKAHARA AND YOU, HARUMA, BECAUSE YOUR HEART ISN'T WITH US HERE.
IT MIGHT SOUND CHEESY, BUT WE'RE ONLY YOUNG ONCE.
BESIDES, HARUMA, YOU NEED HIM, RIGHT?
....
HE'S YOUR ONLY ALLY WHEN IT COMES TO SEISHIRO.
PPSST
AS THE SHISEI FESTIVAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, I ORDER YOU, HARUMA.
PSSH
GO CAPTURE...
...IBUKI TAKAHARA!


I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE IS
I HAVE NO CLUES EVEN AT THE DORM.
I HAVE...
...NO CLUES
THMMP
STILL...
THMMP
THMMP

FWAP
RUSSLE
HMM?
I DON'T... ..KNOW ANY OTHER PLACE...
IF YOU WANT TO FIND IBUKI TAKAHARA GO RIGHT.


TURN
....
TWILL
!
TRUST ME.
FWAP
TRUST ME.
HE STILL BELIEVES.
TAP
TAP
GRIPP

I SCATTERED THE PAPERS AS YOU ASKED.
言われた通りバラまいてきましたけど
HEH HEH...
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO DO THIS.
IT'S AN UNFORGIVEABLE SIN TO LET BEAUTIFUL THINGS LOSE THEIR LUSTER.

JIN SAITO CONFESSED THE PAST BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU SAID. ARE YOU FEELING RESPONSIBLE BECAUSE OF THAT?
YOU THINK THAT THIS WILL MAKE UP FOR IT?
YOU HAVE SUCH A TROUBLESOME PERSONALITY.
面倒な性格…
ERM...
I CAN'T HAVE HARUMA KOKONOE'S SHINE BE LOST.
YEAH, WHATEVER.
ハァ
YOU'RE NEVER HONEST WITH YOURSELF.

SHISEIKAN HIGH SCHOOL DORMITORY
SHAAA
....

KLAK
SLAMM
H-HOLD ON!
WAIT!
WHAT'S THE MATTER ...?
?!
RUUMBLE
HARUMA!
BAMP
?!
....

WHERE IS IBUKI?
I HEARD HE WENT BACK TO HIS FAMILY.
THAT'S WHAT SENSYU SAID.
OH.
SEE YOU.
HEY.
HOLD IT!
SO...
WHAT'S UP?
JIN, DRY YOURSELF OFF FIRST.
....
DRIP
DRIP
GRAPP
HARUMA.
I'M SORRY.
WHAT ARE...
...YOU DOING HERE?
PEOPLE WHO LIVE OFF CAMPUS ARE STAYING AT THE DORMS TO HELP WITH THE SHISEI FESTIVAL.
THAT'S WHY WE LET HIM USE THE SHOWER.
RUSSLE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHOA
GO TO THE DORM'S BATH
HE DIDN'T COME BY CHOICE

FOR WHAT?
ABOUT SEISHIRO.
ABOUT HOW I KEPT QUIET UNTIL NOW.
IF I TOLD YOU THE TRUTH THAT SEISHIRO DID MURDER PEOPLE...
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NOT BE able TO HANDLE IT.
BUT SEEING THAT YOU HAVE CLOSE FRIENDS, I THOUGHT IT WAS THE RIGHT TIME.
BUT IN THE END...
I DRAGGED IBUKI INTO THIS AND...
THAT'S...
...ENOUGH.
SMAK

KRAK
JIN... 仁さん
...CALL IT EVEN.
WE'LL...
I DIDN'T LIKE HOW YOU ALWAYS TREATED ME LIKE A KID!
I DIDN'T LIKE HOW YOU PRETENDED TO BE MY GUARDIAN!
IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE I WAS LITTLE!

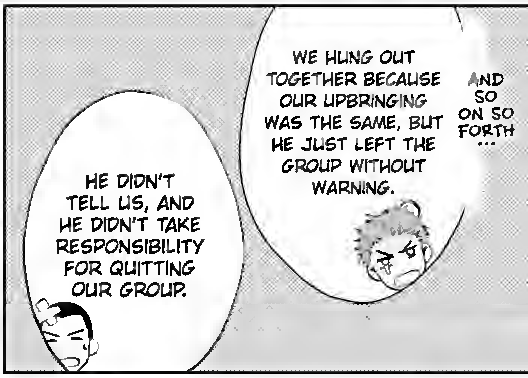
YEAH.
FELLOW DISCIPLES IN THE SAME DOJO ARE LIKE THAT, HUH?
おもしれーのな
兄弟弟子って
I WON'T...
...LET YOU HIT HIM...
もう二度とは
...ANOTHER TIME.
オレが させません
I'M DONE.
もう いい
I'M SORRY.
YOU'RE NOT THE SAME TINY HARUMA THAT I KNEW...
PSST
...?
PSST
PSST
PSST
RUN!
HURRY!

RUN AWAY!
逃げろ
THAT'S NOT GOOD!
ヤバイ
ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE GRUDGES WITH HIM ARE GATHERING FROM ALL OVER!
AHHH
キャー
I HEARD THE INFAMOUS IBUKI TAKAHARA IS BACK!
SCITTER
キャー
AHHH!
DO YOU KNOW?
WHERE IS IBUKI TAKAHARA?
WHAAA
INFAMOUS?
UM...
TUMMP
HEY.
LET ME GO FIND HIM...
...FOR NOW.
MWA HA HA...
?
イメージギャップがー
TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM HIS IMAGE...
HARUMA!
このスーツ
いつもの。
THE USUAL IBUKI.

THAT UNIFORM.
IT'S SHISEIKAN'S.
YOU WITH IBUKI TAKAHARA?
COME WITH US FOR A SECOND.

BEATEN UP!
TAPP
TAPP
TAATTER
HEY, UH...
PLEASE HEAR US OUT, SIR.
WE'RE ALL OLD FRIENDS OF TAKAHARA...

OH...
THAT'S WHAT WE WANT TO KNOW!
WERE YOU EVEN LISTENING?
THEN DO YOU KNOW WHERE IBUKI IS?
NO.


WE HUNG OUT TOGETHER BECAUSE OUR UPBRINGING WAS THE SAME, BUT HE JUST LEFT THE GROUP WITHOUT WARNING.
AND SO ON SO FORTH...
HE DIDN'T TELL US, AND HE DIDN'T TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR QUITTING OUR GROUP.

HE JUST DISAPPEARED. BUT THEN WE HEARD RUMORS THAT HE ENTERED SHISEIKAN.
WE WERE LOOKING FOR HIM TOO, BECAUSE WE WANTED TO SETTLE THINGS WITH HIM.

OH...
...IBUKI BACK.
TO BRING...
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WHY DID YOU COME ALL THE WAY FROM TOKYO?
Um...
DON'T YOU HAVE HIS CELL NUMBER?
I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WERE FRIENDS.
?
OH
TOO USED TO BEING ON HIS OWN.
友達関係が下手すぎる。
RIING

SWOOSH
BEEP
SNAPP
WHY ARE YOU HERE LOOKING SO CALM?

I CAME TO...
COME BACK.
...GET YOU.
ANSWER ME!
I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE LIKE SEISHIRO.
TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT OTHERS WITHOUT KILLING ANYONE.
I WANTED TO WIELD THE SAME KIND OF SWORD AS SEISHIRO AND WORKED FOR IT UNTIL TODAY...
BUT...
I BELIEVED THE WORDS OF A MURDERER!

DON'T YOU FEEL THE SAME?
YOU BELIEVED THAT SEISHIRO DIDN'T KILL ANYONE!
YOU BELIEVED EVEN MORE STRONGLY THAN ME.
AND YET...
YOU CAN JUST STAND THERE AND CALMLY ACCEPT THAT HE'S A MURDERER?!
SEISHIRO...
I'M NOT OKAY...
...WITH IT.
BUT...
EVEN SO...
...COMMITTED MURDER, NO MATTER WHAT HIS JUSTIFICATION WAS.

SEISHIRO WAS KIND AND CARING TOWARD ME.
THAT FACT REMAINS THE SAME.
HE'S PRECIOUS TO ME.
HE SUPPORTED AND CARED FOR ME.
THAT'S WHY...
...NOTHING HAS CHANGED.
I WILL CONTINUE MY SEARCH FOR THE ONE WHO MURDERED SEISHIRO.
AND I WILL REVEAL THE TRUTH.
I SEE.
IF THAT'S SO...

...THIS IS WHERE WE PART WAYS.
THIS IS...
...AS FAR AS WE GO.
?!
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE THAT WAY?!
UNLIKE YOU, I CAN'T FORGIVE THAT MURDERER!
WHY?!
JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN'T FORGIVE SEISHIRO...
...WE CAN'T BE FRIENDS ANYMORE?!
WHY DON'T YOU GET IT?
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

WHA—
LET GO...
YOU'RE WRONG.
HUH?!
I'M SORRY, BUT I CAN'T BE WHAT YOU WANT ME TO BE.
BA-DUMP
I'M DONE LOOKING FOR REVENGE.
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.
WE DON'T BELIEVE IN THE SAME THINGS, SO WE CAN'T CALL EACH OTHER FRIENDS.
GOOD-BYE.
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
NO...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
I'M TELLING YOU YOUR ALLY IN THIS IS GONE!
NO!
GRABB
?!
THAT'S NOT IT!

I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU!
EVEN SEISHIRO...
...CAN'T TAKE IBUKI AWAY FROM ME!
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO...
...WITH SEISHIRO.
IBUKI.
YOU'RE WRONG...
DAMN. I DON'T...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT.
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO BRING BACK AN ALLY.
BUT...
JUST SAY WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND.
I'M HERE BECAUSE YOU'RE MY FRIEND!

I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU!
...WITH SEISHIRO.
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO...
I'M HERE BECAUSE YOU'RE MY FRIEND!
JUST SAY WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND.
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO BRING BACK AN ALLY.
BUT...
IBUKI.
YOU'RE WRONG...
DAMN. I DON'T...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT.

EVEN SEISHIRO...
...CAN'T TAKE IBUKI AWAY FROM ME!

I SAID I DON'T BELIEVE IN SEISHIRO ANYMORE! CAN YOU BE AROUND A PERSON LIKE—
IBUKI.
NO...
...THAT'S NOT THE POINT!
PHRASING...
YOU...
!
COME BACK TO ME.
!

DAMMIT!
SLAPP
HUSSLE
NODD
NODD
WHAT?!
YOU PROMISED THEM YOU'D BE BACK TODAY TO MAKE IT FOR THE SHISEI FESTIVAL?!
THAT'S BAD! WE BETTER HURRY!
BUSSLE
HEY...
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
STOMMP
NODD
JUST BECAUSE WE'RE FRIENDS DOESN'T MEAN WE HAVE TO BE COMPLETELY THE SAME
友達だからって全部同じじゃなくていいと思う。
ALSO! JUST AS I SAID, I HAVE NO INTENTION TO HELP YOU SEARCH THE MURDERER OF SEISHIRO!
FWIISH

...IBUKI TAKAHARA.
DA-DAAA
!!
HEY. IT'S BEEN A WHILE...
UMM... SORRY, WHO ARE YOU?
I SERIOUSLY DON'T KNOW.
わからない
マジで
DON'T TELL ME YOU FORGOT! WE ALMOST FOUGHT TO THE DEATH BACK THEN!
OH...
SORRY... THERE WERE TOO MANY OF THOSE FOR ME...
DON'T APOLOGIZE WITH A STRAIGHT FACE!
NOW I FEEL AWKWARD!
THIS ONE TOO?!
HEY, STOP IT!
KLAK
DAMMIT! WE DON'T HAVE TIME RIGHT NOW...
SNIKK
!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, HUH?
IBUKI...
STOMMP
...IBUKI.

CLOP
LOOKS LIKE...
CLOP
CLOP
...YOU DIDN'T FORGET ABOUT US.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, BOSS.
YOU GUYS...?!
KRUNCH
BZZZ
THIS IS BAD...
!
HMPH.
GO ON.
PATT

WE HAD A PLAN FOR THE NEXT TIME WE MET.
WE WERE GOING TO ROUGH YOU UP.
BUT, WE CHANGED OUR MINDS.
WHY...?
Hmph.
ONCE WE SAW YOU SMILING LIKE THAT, IT JUST DIDN'T MATTER ANYMORE.
YOU DON'T BELONG HERE.
Huh?
WELL, AFTER HEARING YOU TWO LOVEBIRDS FIGHTING, IT FEELS STUPID.
YOU WERE QUICK TO ATTACK BACK THEN, BUT YOU'RE SO PATIENT NOW.
WAIT, THAT'S NOT RIGHT!
ちょ ちがーよ…
YOU GUYS...
WE DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE YOU HERE AGAIN.
GO BACK.

What?! WE'RE GOING BACK ON THIS?!
HEY!
THIS IS BULL!
WE'LL BE YOUR OPPO-NENT!
HEY!
DASSH
NOW, GO!
BONG
FWIP
PLEASE USE THIS!
Y-YEAH!
スカー!!
SCOOTER!
THIS IS THE COUNTRYSIDE, MAN!!
田舎ぇぇぇ!
KLAK
UGH...
KLANG
KLINK
THE LAST TRAIN TO TOKYO IS LONG GONE AT THIS HOUR!
Gah! WE DON'T HAVE A CHOICE! THIS IS GONNA KILL MY BUTT, BUT WE HAVE TO GO!
VROOM
GRABB
HEY, LET'S GO!

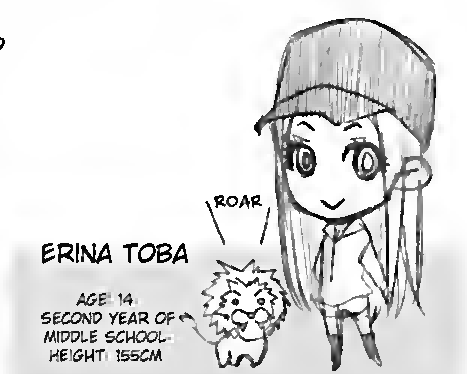
GET ON.
HARUMA!
SO WE DROVE LIKE THIS.
IBUKI...
ARE YOU CRYING?
NO, I'M NOT!
ALONG THE LAKE...
...AT NIGHT.
AS FAST AS WE COULD GO.
END

SAMURAI DRIVE CHARACTER PROFILE - PART 16

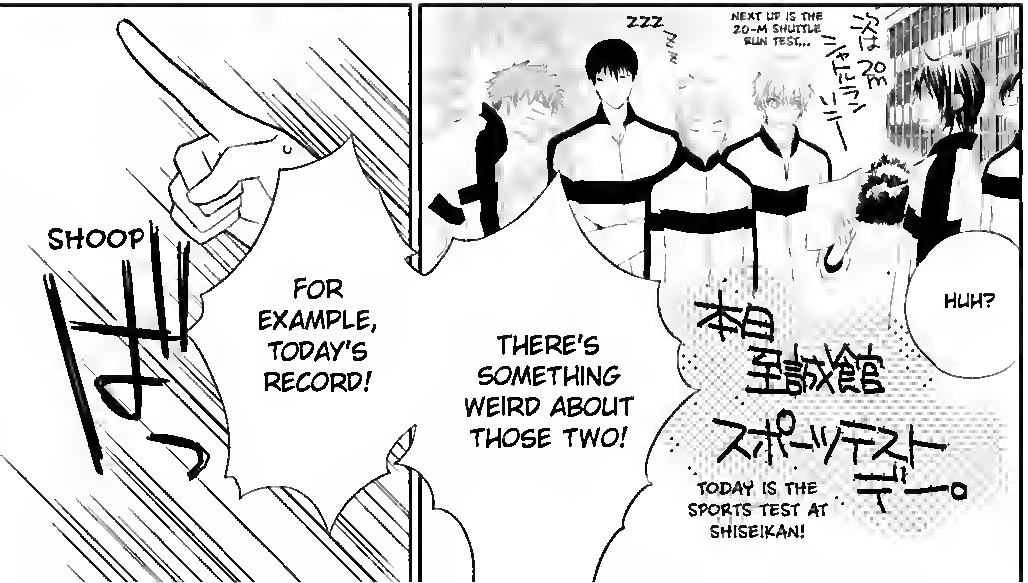
SHE'S IBUKI'S FRIEND IN HIS HOMETOWN. SHE HAS VERY BRIGHT BLONDE HAIR AND NICE LEGS.
HER NAME WAS TAKEN FROM A READER THROUGH A SPECIAL PROJECT. SAME GOES FOR HER FRIEND, OZAWA!
AT THE TIME, IBUKI HAD FEELINGS FOR HER, BUT ERINA DID NOT. AT ALL. SHE DIDN'T NOTICE HIS FEELINGS, AND SHE PROBABLY WASN'T INTERESTED YET.
POOR IBUKI...!

I HAD A LOT OF FUN DRAWING HER EYELASHES.

SHE'S ONE OF THE FEW GIRLS IN *SAMURAI DRIVE!*

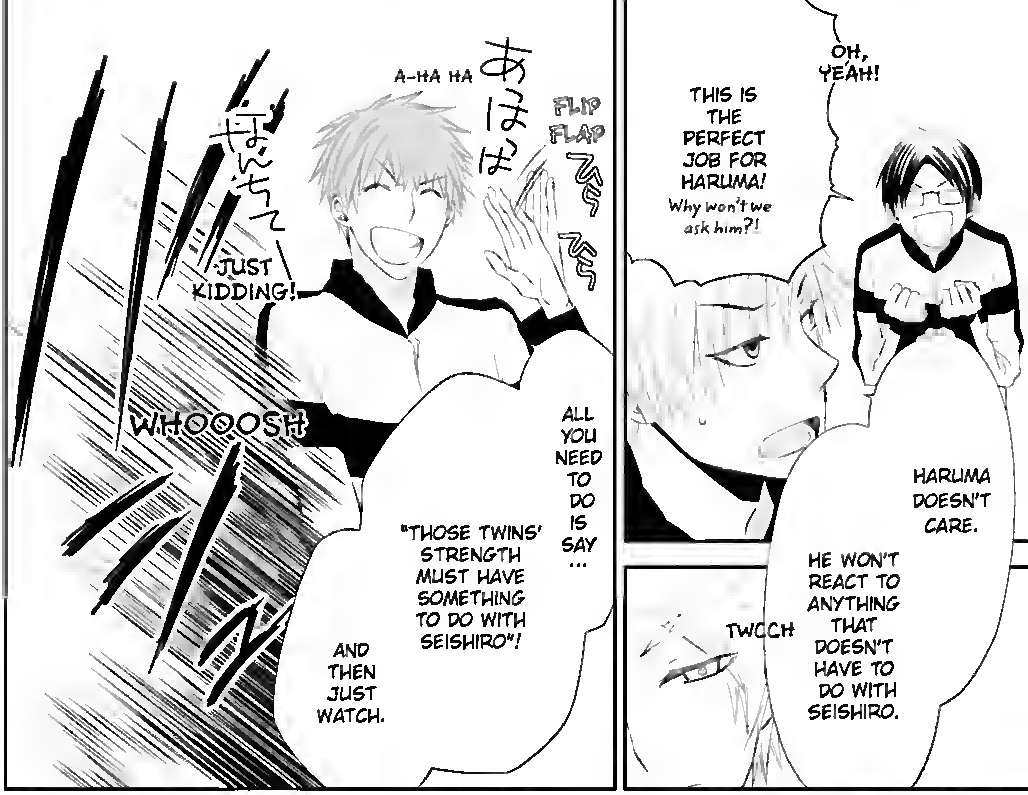


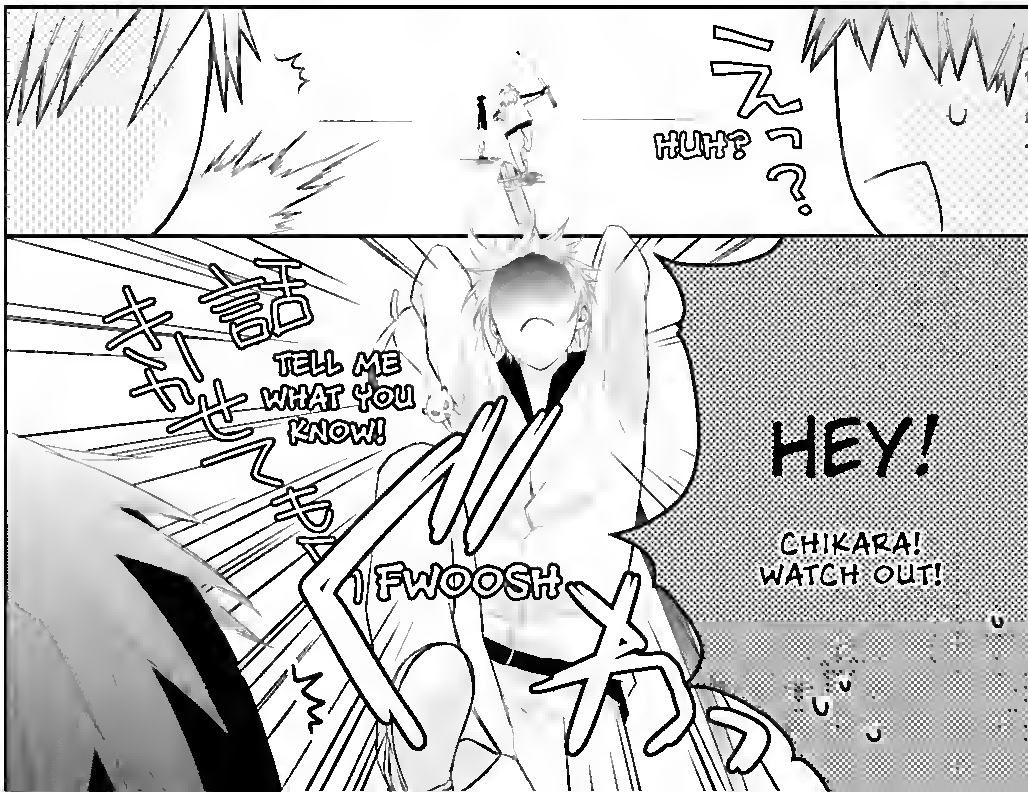
THE SOUMA BROTHERS...
THOSE TWINS HAVE SOME KIND OF SECRET.


ZZZ
NEXT UP IS THE 20-M SHUTTLE RUN TEST...
HUH?
本日は晴天なり
スポーツテストー。
TODAY IS THE SPORTS TEST AT SHISEIKAN!
THERE'S SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT THOSE TWO!
FOR EXAMPLE, TODAY'S RECORD!
SHOOP

NATIONAL AVERAGE
-50-METER DASH – A LITTLE OVER 7 SECONDS
-HAND BALL THROW – ABOUT 30 METERS
THAT IS AMAZING.
YAORR
BUT UNFORTUNATELY, THAT'S AVERAGE AMONG THE SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS OF SHISEIKAN...
THEY'RE ALL SUPER-HUMAN...
LIKE JIN... OR JIN...
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM HERE!
FWOOSH
WOW
6.3 SECONDS!
WOW
50 METER DASH!
BALL THROWING.
SWINNG
OVER 40 METERS!
PSST
ACCORDING TO SENSYU'S RELIABLE (?) DATA.
PHYSICAL TEST RECORD
PHYSICAL TEST RECORD
WOW...
THAT'S NOT ALL.
YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE THIS!
WHAT? YOU'RE RIGHT. THEY ARE.
THEIR RESULTS ARE EXACTLY THE SAME.
TAKE A LOOK AT THESE TWO.

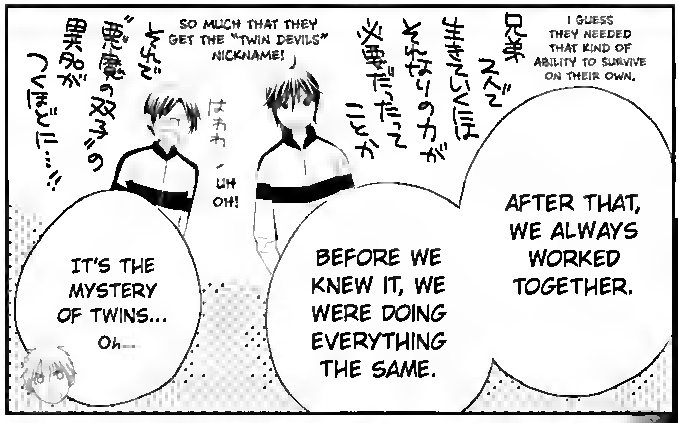
CHIKARA
SOUMA
AGE: 17
HEIGHT: 178 CM
WEIGHT: 68 KG
DOMINANT HAND: RIGHT
TEST SCORES
JAPANESE 58
CLASSICS 60
MATH II 82
MATH B 90
STRENGTH
MUSCULAR ENDURANCE
KAZUE
SOUMA
AGE: 17
HEIGHT: 178 CM
WEIGHT: 68 KG
DOMINANT HAND: RIGHT
TEST SCORES
JAPANESE 58
CLASSICS 60
MATH II 82
STRENGTH
MUSCULAR ENDURANCE
FLEXIBILITY
COORDINATION
ENDURANCE
...IS COMPLETELY IDENTICAL.
Did you know?
EVERYTHING ABOUT THEM...
LIKES: TYPE
HUH?
...
LOOKING FOR AN EVENT
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO NEXT?
UP TO YOU.
Zzzzz
Zzzzz
ARE YOU KIDDING?
IF IT BOTHERS YOU SO MUCH, GO ASK THEM.
THEY'RE CALLED THE "TWIN DEVILS" FOR A REASON. I'M SCARED OF THEM!
RIGHT?!
Isn't that kind of weird?!
THIS IS TOO COORDINATED, EVEN FOR TWINS.
My little brother and sister are twins, but they're not like this ..
YEAH.


OH, YEAH!
THIS IS THE PERFECT JOB FOR HARUMA! Why won't we ask him?!
HARUMA DOESN'T CARE.
HE WON'T REACT TO ANYTHING THAT DOESN'T HAVE TO DO WITH SEISHIRO.
TWCCH
ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS SAY ...
"THOSE TWINS' STRENGTH MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH SEISHIRO"!
AND THEN JUST WATCH.
WHOOOSH
JUST KIDDING!
A-HA HA
あはは
FLIP FLAP
ぺら ぺら
ぽんそて


HUH?
こっ?
TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW!
FWOOSH
HEY!
CHIKARA! WATCH OUT!

TATTER
WE'RE SORRY.
IF I HAD TO PICK ONE THOUGH... THE SOUMA FAMILY IS A REALLY OLD AND TRADITIONAL FAMILY.
IT'S BEING CONTROLLED BY AN OBTUSE GEEZER THAT THINKS TWINS ARE BAD LUCK.
WE DON'T NEED TWO SUCCESSORS TO THE SOUMA FAMILY!
BEGONE!
YOU CHILDREN OF ILL OMEN!
THERE IS NO SECRET.
WHAT? OUR SECRET?
OKAY...
ZZZZ
YOU BETTER MANAGE HIM BETTER, IBUKI!
MANAGE?
HE CAME AT ME LIKE A BULLET!
WUUSH
NOT PUNISHED DUE TO BEING HALF ASLEEP.

AND THEN WE LEFT HOME...
...AND BECAME DELINQUENTS.
That happened in the past.
WE'LL LEAVE THIS PLACE JUST LIKE YOU WANTED, GEEZER!
WHAT?!
WE'LL LIVE AS ONE AND TOGETHER!

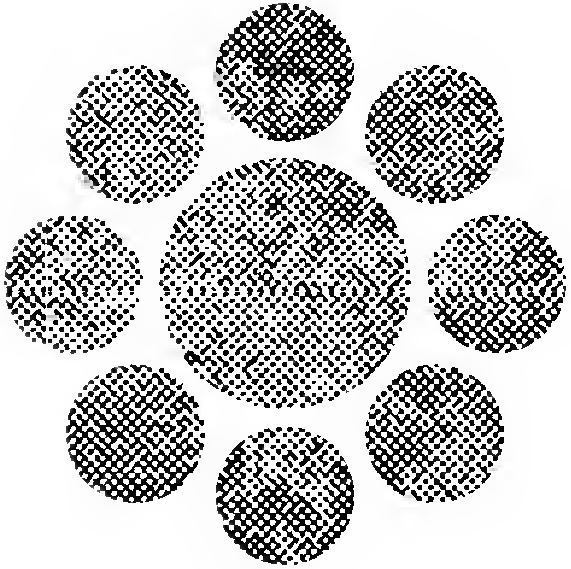

I GUESS THEY NEEDED THAT KIND OF ABILITY TO SURVIVE ON THEIR OWN.
SO MUCH THAT THEY GET THE "TWIN DEVILS" NICKNAME!
UH OH!
AFTER THAT, WE ALWAYS WORKED TOGETHER.
BEFORE WE KNEW IT, WE WERE DOING EVERYTHING THE SAME.
IT'S THE MYSTERY OF TWINS...
Oh...

T-THAT PAST IS HARSHER THAN I THOUGHT.
I'M SORRY FOR ASKING..
WE'RE ACTUALLY PROUD OF IT.
IT WAS A CLEAN BREAK.

HUH?
ANYWAY, I THINK YOU BETTER RUN.
Nothing.
I WISH THAT WERE THE CASE.
HUH?

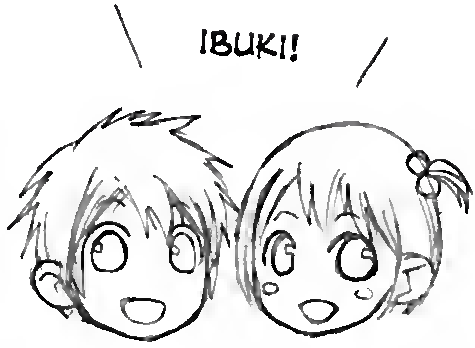
はい
YUP.
すでに遅かったです。
TOO LATE.
WELL, YOU KNOW?
YOU GUYS ARE IN DANGER.
KAZUE.
PSSSSHHH
We're so sorry.
CRICH
KRAKK
KRAKK
YOU DO KNOW THAT ATTACKING CHIKARA MEANS YOU'RE ATTACKING ME TOO?
KAZUE! THERE ARE WEIRD NOISES COMING OUT OF THAT GRIP METER!
YOU PREPARED FOR THE CONSEQUENCES?
BECAUSE WE ARE ONE AND THE SAME.
THERE IT IS AGAIN.
YOUR "LIMIT BREAK ONLY WHEN YOUR CHIKARA IS IN DANGER" THING.
OH, WELL...

You don't need to.
いらないよ
SIGH
はぁ
WHAT? ARE YOU HOLDING BACK BECAUSE OF ME?
IT'S SUBCONSCIOUS, SO I CAN'T CONTROL IT.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.
TO BE HONEST, I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK ABOUT IT.
NORMALLY, OUR PHYSICAL TRAITS ARE IDENTICAL...
...BUT YOUR POWERS GO UP WHEN I'M IN TROUBLE?
HMPH
WHAT'S GOING ON?
ARE THEY JUST EXTREMELY CLOSE?
AS ONE WHO DOESN'T SHINE, YOU'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND.
THIS IS BUT ANOTHER FORM OF BEAUTY.
A SORT OF RESPECT, SYNCHRONI-ZATION...
...AND DEPENDENCE...
...ON THE PERSON THAT THEY ACKNOWLEDGE.
THERE'S STILL MUCH WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE SOUMA BROTHERS.
THIS IS WHY ...
...SHISEIKAN IS INTERESTING.
PHYSICAL TEST RECORD CHIKARA SOUMA
END



Samurai Drive

Fujiko Hosumi



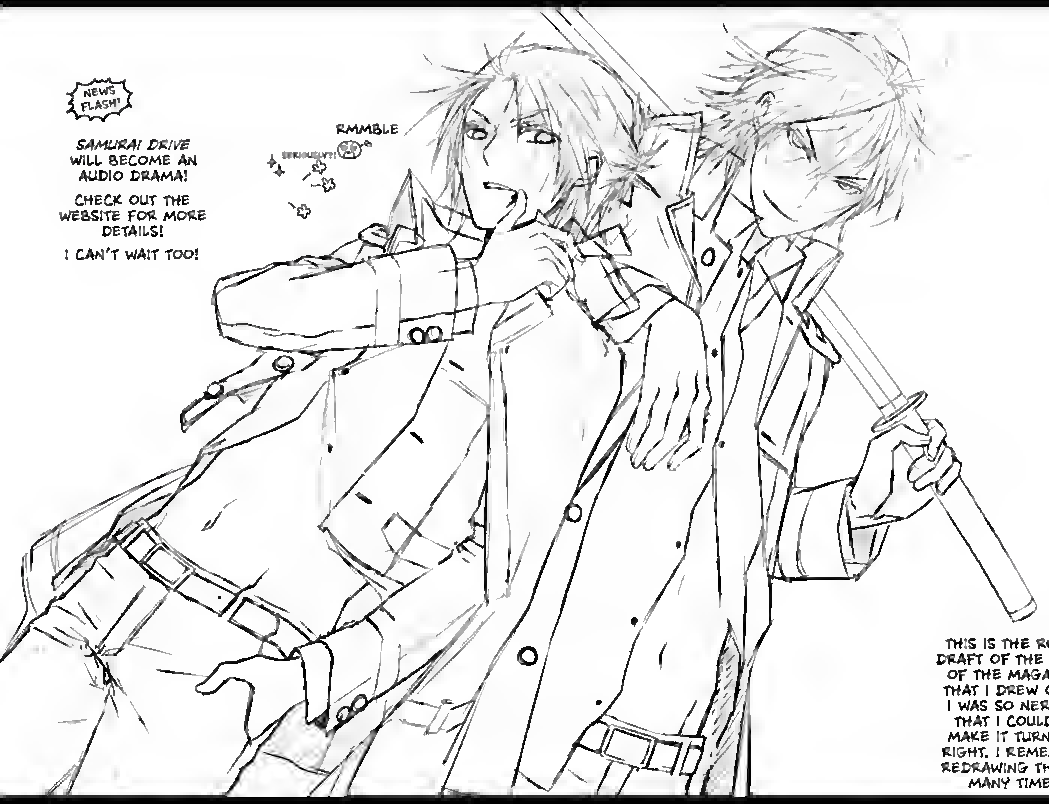
SAMURAI DRIVE CHARACTER PROFILE - PART 17

IBUKI'S FAMILY

FATHER, MOTHER, TWIN BROTHER AND SISTER

IBUKI FAMILY WAS ONCE DISTINGUISHED. DUE TO ONE OF HIS KIND-HEARTED ANCESTORS BEING SCAMMED, THE FAMILY FELL ON HARD TIMES. EVER SINCE, THEY LIVED THEIR LIVES AS IMPOVERISHED SAMURAI.

EXPERIENCING HARDSHIPS WITH HIS MOTHER AND FATHER, IBUKI ALSO LED A DIFFICULT LIFE. HE IS THE KIND THAT WOULD SHOULDER ALL THE WEIGHT ON HIS OWN. BECAUSE OF THAT, HIS YOUNGER TWIN BROTHER AND SISTER HAVE GROWN UP TO BE NICE KIDS. THE FAMILY MEMBERS LOVE ONE ANOTHER, BUT THEY COULD NOT SUPPORT EACH OTHER DUE TO CERTAIN ISSUES. (BUT NOW THEY ARE VERY HAPPY!)


NEWS FLASH!
SAMURAI DRIVE WILL BECOME AN AUDIO DRAMA!
CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS!
I CAN'T WAIT TOO!
RMMBLE
SHIIIIIUT!
THIS IS THE ROUGH DRAFT OF THE COVER OF THE MAGAZINE THAT I DREW ONCE. I WAS SO NERVOUS THAT I COULDN'T MAKE IT TURN OUT RIGHT. I REMEMBER REDRAWING THIS SO MANY TIMES.

SAMURAI DRIVE

THANK YOU FOR READING VOLUME FOUR OF *SAMURAI DRIVE*. THOUGH THIS IS A PERSONAL UPDATE, I'VE JUST MOVED TO A NEW WORKPLACE AND HAVE WELCOMED A NEW FAMILY MEMBER (A DOG). THANKS TO MY DOG, EVERY SINGLE DAY IS BLISS.

I'M DRAWING *SAMURAI DRIVE* FROM SUCH A WONDERFUL WORKPLACE, AND I HOPE YOU'LL BEAR WITH ME A LITTLE LONGER.

I'M STARTING TO GET LETTERS FROM FANS THAT LIKE *SAMURAI DRIVE*, AND I COULD NOT BE HAPPIER. I HEARD THERE ARE PEOPLE COSPLAYING AS MY CHARACTERS. I WANT TO SEE IT!

STAFF
KITAMURA
NISHIKAWA
REO
KIDO

THANK YOU SO MUCH!
SAGIYOIPU DEMON
AKANE
MIKKO
THANK YOU!

SPECIAL THANKS MY EDITOR, EVERYONE AT THE EDITING DEPARTMENT, I SERIOUSLY CAN'T GET TO THE COMPANY...

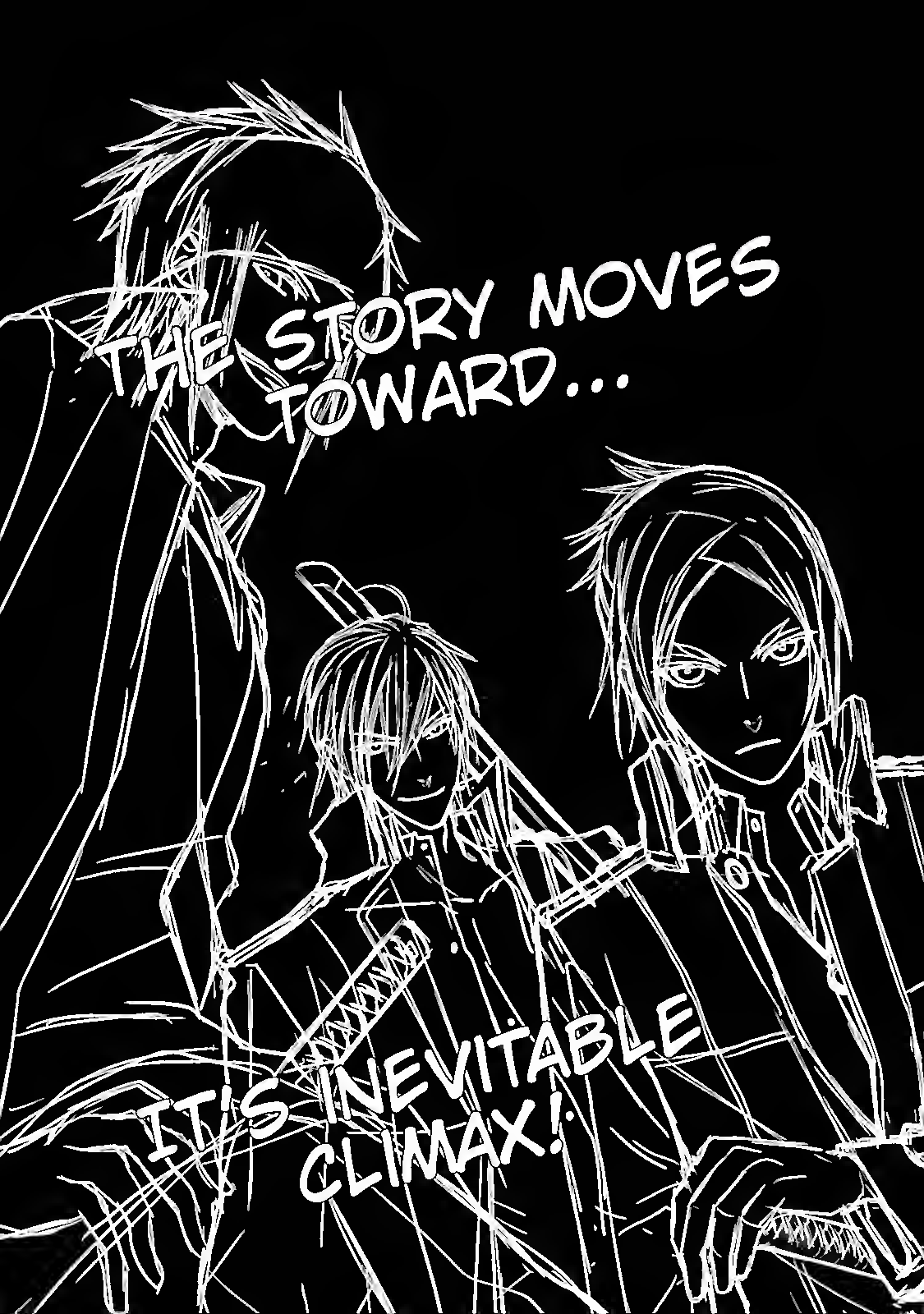
FUJITA THE DESIGNER, HAREYAMA, M-UE <- I OWE SO MUCH TO THIS PERSON.

AND TO ALL MY READERS!

JULY 2011 - FUJKO KOSUMI

THE STORY MOVES TOWARD...
WE ALWAYS KNEW...
IT'S INEVITABLE CLIMAX!
THERE WAS NO TURNING BACK!

WE ALWAYS KNEW...
THERE WAS NO TURNING BACK!


THE STORY MOVES TOWARD...
IT'S INEVITABLE CLIMAX!

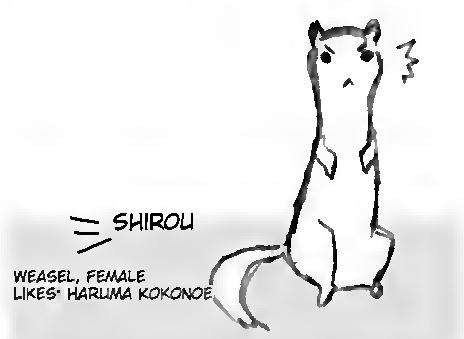
SAMURAI DRIVE CHARACTER PROFILE - PART 18

FORMER STRAY WEASEL.

AFTER BEING SAVED BY HARUMA (SEE VOLUME 1), SHE'S BEEN BY HIS SIDE. NORMALLY, SHE LIVES IN CLASS 1-1 AS THE CLASSROOM PET. IT SEEMS THAT MAYBE SHE UNDERSTANDS WHEN PEOPLE TALK. MAYBE SHE DOESN'T. IN TRUTH, HARUMA IS JUST INTUITING WHAT SHE MIGHT BE SAYING. THEY'RE NOT REALLY COMMUNICATING AT ALL.

SHE'LL PROBABLY HIT IT OFF WITH KASUGA, CONSIDERING SHE'S PART OF HARUMA'S GROUP.

DO STRAY ERMINE EVEN EXIST IN JAPAN? DO THEY HAVE WHITE FUR YEAR ROUND? PLEASE DON'T ASK QUESTIONS LIKE THAT.



SHIROU

WEASEL, FEMALE
LIKES: HARUMA KOKONOE

SAMURAI DRIVE
Volume 4

KADDKAWA MANGA

Story and Art by
Fujiko Kosumi

SAMURAI DRIVE © Fujiko KOSUMI 2011

KADOKAWA CORPORATION
2-13-3 Fujimi Chiyoda-ku Tokyo, 102-8177 JAPAN

Translation/Labaamen, HC Language Solutions, Inc.
Lettering/HudsonYards Studio
Design/Nozomi Akashi
Editor/Eric Searleman